

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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## A HOLIDAY RAMBLE IN BUCKS AND OXFORD.

WE have been doing a brief holiday ramble over portions of the counties of Buckingham and Oxford this week, and have noted a few things which we think worth mentioning.

It may be as well to premise, perhaps, that, not being hauntings of the habitats of the great, but desirous, in preference, of seeing and studying the homes and lives of the humble, we have nothing to tell of palaces, or castles, or manor houses. The residences of statesmen and the cloistered retirement of learned University dons were alike unvisited by us. Those, therefore, who delight to linger over descriptions of the dwellings of the great may pass by on the other side, and leave our experiences unperused.

Our course was somewhat of the circum-bendibus order—that is to say, by way of Watford, Cheddington, Aylesbury, and Prince's Risborough, on to Thame, at what may be called the head waters of our great English river, before it has assumed the plural and become "The Thames." We thus had some variety of railways to travel over (of which we shall have a word to say by-and-by), and traversed a considerable district of country, some of it rarely, if ever, visited by ordinary excursionists, or even seekers after the picturesque; concerning which matter we shall also have a word or two to say presently. From Thame we made sundry deviations to outlying towns and villages, in one direction as far as Watlington (a name which, we think, indicates a reminiscence of the Romans and their wattle ways). Part of this excursion we made (for lack of a better) in a decidedly odd sort of conveyance, drawn by as decidedly odd and Rosinante-like an animal, in connection with both of which, we fear, we should have been positively ashamed to "march through Coventry," or any other less purely rural region than where we happened to be. The steed, however, was better than he looked, and took us safely if not swiftly over nearly twenty miles, with no greater mishaps than a couple of breakdowns.

One chief point, of course, of our observations and inquiries was touching the crops and the prospects thereof,

themes ever interesting to Englishmen with home wants to supply. Well, on this point we are glad to be able to make, on the whole, a not unfavourable report, the long drought notwithstanding. The promise of the fields we found de-

healthy, rich-looking green leaf. How they may ear-out is, of course, as yet uncertain, as any indication of "ragging" is only observable here and there. So far, however, as the "staff of life"—wheaten bread—is concerned, we feel

assured that the old adage touching "drought never breeding dearth in England" will this year be once more verified. So much, however, cannot be said of other crops. Hay is universally light—in fact, a poor crop; grass is rapidly becoming scarce; clovers, though thick enough, are of short growth; while peas are, in many places, both thin and weak. To these general features, however, there are many exceptions; for we saw both grass and clover fields of marvellous richness, the produce being at once thick, heavy, and healthy. This was on moist soils, of course, and in one instance—some grass meadows—was the result of continuous irrigation, the proprietor having a system of sluices on his land, and flooding the fields from time to time, a circumstance that seemed to justify a notion we have before broached of storing up the superfluous moisture of winter for purposes of irrigation during the droughts of summer. Concerning beans, it is more difficult to pronounce an opinion. We saw some that were very poor indeed—in the neighbourhood of Aylesbury that was—but further on, along the bottom of the Oxfordshire hills, they were very much better; and, although rather meagre in height, profuse in blossom. Between Aylesbury and Risborough—where the soil, we fancy, must be both shallow and poor—there are some fields of oats in full ear, and yet not more than eight or ten inches in height. A poorer crop we never saw, even on the barest hillside in Scotland: and that is saying a good deal. But away from this seemingly sterile region oat-culture was more promising, though probably the crop of this season will be light generally. Barleys vary considerably. They are generally thick and bushy at the root, but in many



"THE DECLARATION."—(PICTURE BY G. F. WILHELMS.)

cidedly better than might have been expected. The wheats look exceedingly well, as they generally do in dry seasons. The plants in the district we traversed are thick on the ground, strong in the stalk, and bear a

places stunted in height. Rain, however, would rectify this; and a fair yield might yet be secured. Potatoes do not seem to be much of a farmer's crop in this quarter, being principally cultivated for home con-





sumption, and on the labourers' allotments; but so far they promise well. On the whole, though Bucks and Oxford, so far as we had opportunities of observing, may not this year be quite a land of Goshen, they will yield a goodly measure of food materials—sufficient, at all events, if the rest of the country be equally productive, and when supplemented by foreign supplies, to keep prices within moderate limits. We ought to add that the farmers' art is carried on with considerable skill in this neighbourhood. We saw some farms that might serve as models; and one at Chinnor, indeed, the occupant of which means to "put in" for a prize at a forthcoming competition at Oxford, with, we should think, a good prospect of success.

From the state of farming to that of the farm labourers is a natural transition, and in this respect also we are glad to have a tolerably satisfactory report to make. The money wages paid are small, it is true—only from eleven to twelve shillings a week; but then there are several extras, such as allotments of land either altogether free or at only nominal rents, piecework, or additional payments during haymaking and harvest, sometimes free cottages, and so on, that render the peasant's position in this quarter, at any rate, not so very miserable as it is usually deemed. Still there is ample scope for improvement, especially in respect of cottages, many—we may say most—of which are of the most primitive character and would well bear improving out of existence, new ones, of course, being substituted for them. One thing speaks favourably for the character of the peasantry: there is very little poaching, though game is plentiful; and we heard serious complaints of the mischief done by hares and rabbits in the fields, and by foxes in the poultry-sheds. By-the-by, speaking of poultry reminds us that duck-breeding is extensively practised by the peasantry and villagers in this neighbourhood: not a cottager here but rears several broods every season; every pond has its web-footed tenants and every garden its duck-shed; and those who get their ducklings early to market make a good thing of the venture. Pig-keeping is likewise general, and "bacon and cabbage" are viands not unknown even in the poorest dwelling.

We noticed a few curiosities in the course of our short peregrinations. The village pound and the parish stocks are institutions still extant, and we saw a greater curiosity than either—a man who had actually been fixed in the latter, we hope to his own improvement and the edification of his neighbours, though we doubt both results. But the greatest curiosity of all that we discovered, and about the impropriety of which we have no doubt whatever, was a parish parson who was also—parish constable, of all things on earth!—to which office, we were told, he had been appointed at his own earnest solicitation. Can clerical ambition, or clerical love of domination, further (or lower) go than that? Just fancy! a graduate of Oxford, say, peering about o' nights to see that village alehouses are shut up at proper hours; hauling inebriate peasants and vermin-covered vagrants to the lock-up; having an occasional "set-to" with the local "bruiser," and getting his reverend visage, maybe, discoloured or his sacerdotal vestments rent in the encounter! But, certainly, engendering disrespect for his office and character, and enmity to his person, among those whom it ought to be his special duty to conciliate and to lead by the bonds of love into the ways of righteousness. Not thus, as we think, ought a minister of religion and a preacher of the gospel of peace and good-will to demean himself. To this reverend Dogberry, whose name, we believe, is Allen, and his position *locum tenens* of the Vicar of Towersey, we commend a couple of sentences, written the other day by the Bishop of Manchester in reference to other matters, but applicable in spirit to the case of the Bucks clerico-constable:—"Let all things be done decently and in order" is a great maxim; but "Let all things be done unto edifying" is a greater; and the end of all our ministrations is to win our people's hearts, not to alienate them; to build up, not to disunite or destroy."

Of the scenery we passed through, we could dilate *ad infinitum*. The land, as we have said, is highly cultivated, and is everywhere dotted with fine trees, in clumps and strips as well as singly. The villages, though primitive and straggling—cottages being sometimes scattered about in the most seemingly hap-hazard fashion imaginable—are quaint and picturesque; the churches are of the ancient substantial style of construction so often met with in purely rural districts, and mostly "embosomed close with wood." The great feature of the landscape, however, is the range of hills that runs through the country, and a tour over which is a great treat indeed. This treat we were fortunate enough to enjoy. A friend kindly lent us a quiet, sure-footed nag—and lucky it was said nag was quiet and sure-footed, considering the nature of the ground and our limited equestrian powers—and, acting as our guide, took us up the steep side of the Oxford hills above Hempton, where the ascent is most abrupt and there is little more than a bridle-path, over the crest, and down by another route, where runs the high road from Oxford through High Wycombe to London; and where a wary hand has to be kept upon the rein—at such spots as the "goose-neck" turn, for instance—lest a sudden and disastrous descent over a precipice should be the meed of carelessness. On this part of the hills we had pointed to us the scene of a notable feat of horsemanship. A stag-hunt was in progress, and a certain Mr. Payne—who must have been "a free rider, and a bold"—carried away by the excitement of the chase, was over the crest of the hill and some way down the declivity ere he knew, or remembered, where he was. But the impetus was on; to stop was impossible—"downward, sheer downward, Sir Halbert must ride;" and downward at full gallop Mr. Payne did ride for a good half mile—to inevitable

destruction, as every spectator thought. By marvellous good fortune, however, man and horse emerged unscathed from the terrible ordeal, and were "first in" at the death of the stag on the plain below. Not so lucky was another equestrian who essayed a like feat, but of a much less daring kind. He escaped with a few bruises himself, but his steed had his neck broken; in memory of which event a white cross has been cut in the chalky soil, and marks the spot from afar. Another white cross—called "White-cliff Cross," we believe—is a conspicuous object in the view from below, but more towards Aylesbury, and can be seen from the towers of Oxford, certain colleges of which are the lords superior of large portions of the land hereabout. Some portions of the hills are bare of all save stunted heather, and are parish commons; but other parts are wooded even to the very summit, with patches of cultivated land interspersed. Of these hills, and from them, fine views are to be obtained; and we marvel much that artists and tourists have made so little of such scenes. Materials for a dozen fine landscape pictures might be collected in a single day; but, then, it is the old story: men go far afield in search of the picturesque and beautiful, and leave unnoticed what lies under their very noses. The country, too, is rich in interest for the antiquary and the archaeologist. There are ancient fabrics (like the old barn at Towersey Grange, with its walls of from 3 ft. to 5 ft. thick), sites of battles and of graveyards, the memory of which liveth not, the fact that such things were being only evidenced by rusty fragments of weapons being now and then found and human bones being dug up in spots over which the plough has long passed.

Into these matters, however, we cannot now enter, but must hasten to mention the one drawback to the many inducements to visit the district we have been describing. The railway accommodation is execrable. The traveller is subjected to innumerable stoppages and changes, the only apparent object of which is delay; trains on one line do not fit in with those on another; at Aylesbury, for instance, the stations of the two companies—the London and North-Western and the Great Western—are at opposite sides of the town—as far apart, in fact, as possible; the times of arrival and departure being so arranged that a traveller must miss the trains, and must wait for an hour or two in that not very clean, nor picturesque, nor attractive town. Then the carriages (especially on the Great Western branch) are dirty, dilapidated, and uncomfortable; while the stations are seedy, and the officers anything but civil or obliging. All this is much to be regretted, because it tends to keep people away from a district that is otherwise well worth visiting, and must help to reduce shareholders' dividends to a low figure, or, as has been the case with the Great Western ere now, to prevent any dividend at all being paid.

#### "THE DECLARATION."

In this picture Mr. F. Wilhelm has exhibited those qualities of tender finish combined with harmony of colour and the best sort of realism which make the fascination of the modern German and Flemish schools. The lady is no ethereal, ghostly beauty, but a charming, solid piece of flesh and blood; the suitor—albeit worn a little with the anxiety of his passion or with the sudden necessity of declaration—bearing a troubled expression, is no mere dainty loungee, dressed for a part. The old room, fittest place for a doubting lover to seek his fate (because its gaunt, dim emptiness, and the sense of solitude conveyed by it, will lead to a confiding, trustful, protection-seeking mood in the lady), is all in admirable keeping, even to the old-fashioned tapestry and furniture. Indeed, this little simple work is just such a finished picture as we love to see.

Our Engraving has been made by permission of Messrs. Goupil, to whom the original belongs.

**THE NATIONAL REVENUE.**—From April 1 to June 4 the total receipts into the exchequer amounted to £11,113,516, or nearly £2,000,000 short of the sum paid in during the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure was £11,172,613, and this was about £700,000 less than the issues from the exchequer in the first nine weeks of the financial year 1869. The interest on the national debt accounts for over six millions and a quarter, while the supply services voted by Parliament have already absorbed nearly five millions. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £7,876,582, and this was more by three millions and a half than the balance in the first week of June last year.

**A NEW ANÆSTHETIC.**—It is announced by several journals that Dr. Oscar Liebreich, to whom we owe protagon and the now well-known chloral, has discovered a new anodyne, to which the name of chloride of ethylide (*Aethylidenchlorid*) has been given. This substance, which has been repeatedly applied with perfect success in the clinical hospital of Dr. Langenbeck, is said to be more rapid and agreeable in its effects than chloroform. The chief merit, however, claimed for it is, that it may be administered without interfering with the free and natural breathing of the patient, an advantage which it possesses over most other anæsthetics. As the effect of the new body is stated to be very transient, the dose must be repeated in a lengthened operation.—*North German Correspondent.*

**GENERAL SIR GEORGE POLLOCK.**—General Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., who has been gazetted to the brevet rank of Field Marshal, is a younger brother of Sir Frederick Pollock, the late Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and is in his eighty-fourth year. Sir George entered the Bengal Artillery in 1803, and served in Lord Lake's campaigns in the two following years, including the memorable siege of Bhurtpore. He commanded the artillery of General Sullivan Wood's force, in the Nepal War of 1816, and served in the same capacity under Sir Archibald Campbell, in the Burmese War of 1824. The crowning achievement of his military career, however, took place in 1842, when he commanded the Bengal column of the army in Afghanistan, forced the Khyber Pass, relieved the garrison of Jellalabad, defeated the enemy in three separate actions, and finally recaptured Cabool, and obtained the release of the British prisoners. For these services the General received the thanks of Parliament, the Grand Cross of the Bath, and a pension of £1000 a year. In 1844 he was appointed a member of the Supreme Council of India, and in 1858 he was nominated by the Crown one of the directors of the East India Company.

**COCCULUS INDICUS AND BEER.**—There can be no question of the very large adulteration of beer with water. It has been established by the concurrent testimony of the best authorities. Although a fraud, this can hardly be said to be, in any sense, an unmixed evil. Those who contend that the more serious adulteration with cocculus indicus is rare should remember that the amount of cocculus indicus imported into this country at the present moment is sufficient for the adulteration of three fifths of the beer consumed in the United Kingdom. There is no other known use for the deleterious drug. It is utterly useless and never employed in medicine; and is equally useless and unemployed in the arts. Nevertheless, while the quantity imported in 1857 amounted to 68 cwt., it amounted in 1868 to 1064 cwt. It may also be stated that the use of cocculus indicus to give a fictitious strength to beer is not by any means confined to this country. According to a statement of Professor Dragendorff, formerly chemist to the St. Petersburg police, picrotoxin—the active principle of cocculus indicus—is largely used for adulterating beer in Russia; and it is a frequent occurrence that brewers are fined on this account, and the beer confiscated. Schubert, of Wurzburg, also states that Bavarian beer is very often adulterated with cocculus indicus. Adulteration is not the peculiar privilege of British beer.—*Pull Mall Gazette.*

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon has been suffering from a slight attack of rheumatism, but was well enough to be able to be present at the weekly reception of the Empress on Monday evening.

It is officially announced that the Duke of Magenta, who, after the debate in the Legislative Body on Algeria, tendered his resignation, has again requested to be relieved of the Governor-Generalship of that colony. Yielding, however, to the wishes of the Ministry, he will continue to hold office provisionally, in order to give the proposed new organisation of Algeria the benefit of his experience. The Committee of the Budget recommends the suppression of the Privy Council.

M. Ollivier's Ministry suffered two defeats in the Legislative Chamber on Friday week, owing to a coalition of the Extreme Right with the Left. An amendment to a bill concerning the Councils General was proposed by M. Clément Duvernois, and opposed by M. Ollivier. On a division the numbers were—for the amendment, 197; against, 18. In another division which immediately followed the Ministry were again beaten, the numbers being 117 to 83. Last Saturday M. Ollivier said the work of the Cabinet was not only difficult but terrible and declared that he deeply felt the tendency to want of confidence displayed by the Chamber on the previous day. Ultimately a unanimous vote in favour of the Ministry was passed.

The legal journals now publish the names of seventy-two persons against whom the Indictment Chamber of the High Court of Justice has found true bills. Of these M. Gustave Flourens, Felix Pyat, and two or three others are not in custody; the rest are committed for trial. There are six categories of crimes in the indictments:—1. "A conspiracy against the safety of the State and the life of the Emperor." On this head forty-seven of the accused are charged. All the names, with the exception of those of Flourens and "Tibaldi" (the latter will be read with surprise), are extremely obscure. 2. "An attempt against the safety of the State." Twenty-two people are accused of this crime, and the names of Flourens and Gromier, which appear in the first list, appear in this also. 3. "Pillage of private property in bands and by open force." Only three men, all utterly unknown, are accused of forming the "bands." 4. "An attempt at pillage." Gustave Flourens stands all alone in his glory to answer (when he shall be caught) this charge in the indictment, which alludes, it is supposed, to his attempt to get possession of the harlequin's sword and the other stage property arins of the Belleville Theatre, wherewith to carry on the war he proclaimed against the French Empire. 5. "Attempted murder." A man of the name of Prost is alone called upon to answer to this charge. 6. "Murder." Mogy (also indicted as a conspirator to take the Emperor's life) is the sole defendant on this head. He, it will be recollected, is the man who shot the *sergent-de-ville* who came to arrest him in his house at an early hour in the morning, which the prisoner alleges was before the legal time. The counsel retained for the prisoners mean to challenge every jurymen who, as a Councillor of State, signed an address to the Emperor congratulating him upon having escaped from a foul plot. The "plot" being the very thing to be tried, it will be said, in entire accordance with the spirit and letter of French jurisprudence, that persons who have already committed themselves to an opinion on the subject are not qualified to be jurors. It is quite possible—nay, probable—that there will not be upon the panel a sufficient number of jurymen not open to this objection. No doubt, however, the High Court, from whose judgment there is no appeal, will get over this little difficulty.

On Tuesday *Figaro* came out as a Republican paper, M. de Villemessant pompously announcing that for family reasons he had disposed of his journal, for a large sum, to a party he did not like. Then followed a "red" article, purporting to come from the pen of M. Rochefort; verses from Victor Hugo; adhesion to the new organ on the part of a crowd of brothers and sisters—Garibaldi, Georges Sand, Felix Pyat, &c. This joke appears to have been M. de Villemessant's own idea, but he can hardly feel flattered at the manner in which the public swallowed the news that *Figaro* had been sold to the Revolutionary party. Half Paris took the number as serious, and therefore believed the editor capable of transacting business with his bitter enemies. How Rochefort, Victor Hugo, and the other Radicals whose names have been made free with will view the matter remains to be seen.

A great fire occurred on Monday in the forest of Fontainebleau, when 200 acres are said to have been devastated.

### ITALY.

Small and insignificant risings are still taking place in various parts of Italy, but, as they meet with no encouragement from the inhabitants, they are quickly disposed of. It is stated that the authorities have seized plans for an insurrection and letters written by Mazzini. The President of the Correctional Tribunal of Milan has received a letter threatening him with death. The condition of public security in the province of Ravenna continues unsatisfactory.

### ROME.

It is stated in letters from Rome, published by the French papers, that a recent "scene" in the Ecumenical Council, when the general discussion on the dogma of infallibility was abruptly closed, was caused by the deafness of Mgr. Maret, the Bishop of Sura. That prelate was speaking against the dogma, and some of his remarks being misunderstood, or not well heard, interruptions arose. These, owing to his infirmity, he did not hear, and therefore continued his speech. Thereupon some of the members rose excitedly, and proposed the close of the general discussion. It is, however, declared that this course had been arranged beforehand.

A strong protest from the Opposition, with more than one hundred signatures, has been addressed to the Pope against the injustice done to the fifty Fathers who were prevented from speaking on the question of infallibility by the abrupt closing of the general discussion.

### SPAIN.

The Cortes has been engaged in debates on the Act touching the election of a Sovereign. An amendment was proposed that the election should be by universal suffrage, but this was rejected. A proposal made by Senor Roja Arias that the King must have in his favour at least one half plus one of the entire Deputies, was carried by 135 to 124. This puts an end to the chances of Montpensier and all the other candidates, none of whom is able to unite 179 suffrages. Great excitement followed the vote.

A demonstration was made last Saturday by 5000 adherents of Marshal Espartero, who marched in procession with a flag bearing the inscription "Let the will of the nation accomplish the triumph of the rights of the people and of truth." The Unionist party have seceded from the Alphonistists, and will henceforth adopt the name of Septembristas.

### PORTUGAL.

The sittings of the Cortes have been suspended until Oct. 30. The Minister of the Interior has addressed a circular to the Prefects promising a reform of the Chamber of Peers and of the educational system, liberty of public meeting and of association, economy in the Administration, and legislation in harmony with individual rights. Marshal Saldanha demands the convocation of a Constituent Cortes, and also that the army should be increased to 30,000 men. Senor Sampaio has left the Saldanha Cabinet on account of his opposition to the scheme for dissolving the Cortes and instituting a dictatorship.

### RUSSIA.

Hostilities have broken out between Russia and Khiva. Troops have already been sent against the latter country; they are to



positions on the frontier and on the coast of the Caspian, in the vicinity of the new port of Krasnovodsk.

#### TURKEY.

A most destructive fire has occurred in Pera, the European quarter of Constantinople. It commenced at one o'clock on Sunday morning, and was not mastered until midnight. The British Embassy was among the edifices consumed, but the archives and plate were saved, and no one belonging to the establishment was injured. It appears that an entire district about one square mile in extent, and containing, it is said, nearly 20,000 houses, was destroyed. Many of these houses were inhabited by wealthy Armenians, who were out of town celebrating a fête day. Other persons, too, were away in the country spending the Sunday. As many as 250 dead bodies had been discovered. Several persons, too, had been killed since the fire by falling walls. Every effort was made by Sir Henry Elliott to save the British Embassy, but without effect. Lady Elliott was almost suffocated when she left the building. An estimate in the *Levant Herald* fixes the loss at five millions sterling.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate recommends the ratification of the Naturalisation Treaty recently negotiated between Lord Clarendon and Mr. Motley.

The House of Representatives, in framing the new Internal Tax Bill, has adopted an amendment, by 90 to 65 votes, the effect of which would be to levy a tax of 5 per cent upon the interest of the Government bonds. This amendment will probably be reconsidered, as several members have denounced it as a partial repudiation.

The Conservative Republicans have elected Mr. Emmery Mayor of Washington, defeating his Radical opponent. The Democrats in Oregon have carried the State elections.

Delegations of prominent Jews are visiting Washington to urge upon the President to intercede on behalf of the persecuted Jews in Roumania. It is supposed they will succeed in their mission.

#### CANADA.

The Governor General has publicly thanked the volunteers and militia for their prompt response to the call to resist the Fenian invasion. General Lindsay spoke on the same occasion, and attributed the easy defeat of the invaders to the accuracy of firing of the Canadian forces. General Lindsay has, moreover, issued a general order, acknowledging the promptitude of the troops.

Telegrams declared to be from authentic sources represent Riel as preparing to resist the advance of the expedition to the Red River.

#### CUBA.

General Rodas telegraphs that a filibustering expedition from New York, by the steamer *George B. Upton*, disembarked near Neuvitas, in Cuba. They were attacked by the Spanish troops, assisted by two gun-boats, and dispersed, losing ten killed, two drowned, and three captured. 17,000 rifles and a large supply of ammunition were captured. The steamer *George B. Upton* with the balance of her cargo and men then sailed, it is supposed, for Colombia. A New York telegram says that 2000 rifles, six tons of powder, and some artillery fell into the hands of the Spaniards.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

Information has been received at the Colonial Office confirming the intelligence already received of the success obtained by the native chiefs Kemp and Ropata. Te Kooti is said to be hiding, with a few followers.

#### THE FENIAN RAID ON CANADA.

According to the New York papers, the late movement of the Fenians on Canada was determined upon owing to the frequent quarrels among the members of the brotherhood. Contributions towards the undertaking were given on the condition that unless a forward movement was made before June 1 the money should revert to the subscribers. Appreciating fully the condition of affairs, General O'Neill decided to mass bodies of troops at Malone, at Franklin, and other points on the frontier, hoping that the diversion of the volunteers to Red River would leave the field open for an attack which, if simultaneous, must result in success. When the Fenians crossed the line, the volunteers waited until the last of their antagonists had set foot upon British soil, and then volley after volley of musketry was fired into their ranks. The battle had begun. So unexpected was this attack that the Fenians became panic-stricken, and scattered like wildfire behind the walls and fences and into the basins, behind the bark pile, and anywhere that shelter could be obtained. General O'Neill, who had been concealed behind a house, rushed forth with drawn sword and shouted to his scattering soldiers. Gaining an audience, he said:—"Men of Ireland! I am ashamed of you. You have acted disgracefully, but you have another chance of showing whether you are cravens or not. Comrades! I will lead you again; and if you will not follow me, I will go with my officers and die in your front. I leave you now, under command of Boyle and O'Reilly." Skirmishing was then recommenced, and continued for about one hour, when General O'Neill drew back his forces from the brow of the hill for the purpose of rest. He was then approached by several of his officers, who requested permission to charge the hill; but, bearing in mind the unlucky result of a similar operation at Fredericksburg during the rebellion, he refused. Yielding partially, however, to their wishes, he ordered them to charge across the open valley and take a position on the wooded hill directly opposite the Canadian forces. The movement was executed in the double quick; but while climbing the hill Private Thomas Murray, of Portland, Me., fell, shot through the heart; and Francis Caraher, of Bridgeport, Conn., received a wound in the groin. The General, in company with Boyle and O'Reilly, walked down the side of the hill and entered the parlour of the brick house, encountering General George Foster, who, with his deputy, Thomas Farley, of St. Albans, was seated in the parlour. O'Neill reached out his hand, but the greeting was refused; and General Foster, placing his hand on O'Neill's shoulder, said, "I arrest you, by virtue of my authority as a District Marshal of the United States." "Sir," exclaimed General O'Neill, starting back as he spoke, "I shall resist your arrest." "It will be useless, Sir," replied General Foster. "But, Sir, I am armed." "So am I," said the General. "John, open that carriage door. Now, Mr. O'Neill, get in, or I will throw you in. I am going to take you to St. Albans, right through the midst of your men; and if you make the slightest outcry I will shoot you dead." Resistance was useless, as the General had said, and O'Neill placed himself in the carriage and was driven to St. Albans. The fighting, after this arrest, with the exception of an occasional shot or two, was not renewed.

The Canadian papers contain long accounts of the late Fenian raid. Before any movement actually took place a great deal of excitement had been aroused throughout Canada by the reports which arrived from all parts of the United States that another "invasion" was being prepared. The *Toronto Globe* says, however, that not the slightest alarm appears to have been felt in any part of the colony. "The feeling universally elicited," it adds, "has been mainly one of keen indignation and of earnest desire that the marauders should be allowed to penetrate some distance into the country, so that their punishment might be more sure and memorable."

THE GIBRALTAR BRIGADES.—The conclusion of the Gibraltar brigandage affair is highly satisfactory. First, both the Bonells, uncle and nephew, having paid the ransom, were on Tuesday released by their captors; and, secondly, as the latter were returning from Puerto Santa Maria with their booty, they were waylaid by the Spanish Guardia Civil, who killed three out of the four brigands, and, it is said, recovered the ransom. The fourth villain, who managed to escape, is expected to be soon captured. An attempt has been made near Gibraltar to capture two more Englishmen, officers of the garrison. The brigands were, however, driven off by the Civil Guards, with a loss of one killed and one wounded.

#### THE EUPHRATES VALLEY ROUTE TO INDIA.

Among those who have given their lives with persevering devotion to a single great object, the name of General Chesney, the surveyor and untiring advocate of the Euphrates Valley Route to India, deserves to be remembered. He has not succeeded—he may never succeed—so far as to look with his own eyes upon the completion of the work which he has meditated for forty years. But assuredly the time is not far distant when the floating ideas upon this subject will take a practical form—when what has been visionary will be accepted as feasible, politically advantageous, and even pecuniarily safe. Then the seed sown by General Chesney, the plant patiently tended by him during so many years, will spring up rapidly and bear fruit. In fame, if not in fortune, he will have his reward, and be reckoned, with a Waghorn or a Lesseps, among the real benefactors of his age.

Among what we may almost call the last generation the enterprise of General Chesney was better known than at present. His plans have been for many years disregarded, owing to the extraordinary success of the Red Sea route, which has fairly supplied the actual wants of England and India. The sea is the highway of nations, and particularly of the English race. Indeed, Englishmen never feel themselves quite independent in their communication with a distant country unless they can avoid intervening foreign territories. At this moment a circuitous line of submarine telegraph is being laid down from Falmouth to Gibraltar, Malta, and Alexandria, in order that the communication between England and her Eastern dominions may be made independent of foreign Powers. From Falmouth to Bombay nothing foreign will be touched but a little strip of Egyptian ground. The passenger route by the Red Sea has had the advantage of this independence, while the speed and regularity of the service have amply satisfied the present generation. But when General Chesney first came before the public the "Overland Route" was not in existence. All the traffic with India was carried on round the Cape, and the greater part of a year must pass before a letter to Calcutta could receive an answer. There had been little real progress since the days of Clive and Hastings. The Indians were a little bigger, a little better built, and contrived to make the voyage in perhaps two-thirds of the time required sixty years before, for the winds and currents of the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic had been more fully studied. But when King William IV. ascended the throne the world was just coming to the end of an old dispensation with regard to human movement both on sea and land. There were steam-boats here and there on the rivers, and there existed such a thing as a railway. Many active and ardent minds were at work in the great field of improving communication. The world had been at peace for fifteen years; it had begun to breathe again after its exhaustion, and its thoughts were turned to peace and mutual intercourse. On the work of the last forty years it would be useless to expatiate; the face of the earth has been transformed, the whole life of man has been changed, the social habits and the political traditions of the old days are rapidly passing away, and these astonishing results are due chiefly, if not wholly, to facility and speed of locomotion. Among those who have laboured in this field most earnestly General Chesney is to be reckoned. His great expedition is in the remembrance of our older readers, and the narrative of it which he has lately published, after an interval of more than thirty years, gives us the opportunity of drawing attention to his services and the probable value of them in the future.

It was in the year 1829 that the East India Company once more turned its attention to overland communication between London and Calcutta. We say once more, because towards the close of the last century the idea of sending despatches by way of the Persian Gulf had occurred to Marquis Wellesley. He had organised mails twice a month by small vessels between Bombay and Bussorah; thence Arabs, mounted on camels, carried the despatches across the desert to Aleppo, whence they were conveyed to Constantinople by Tartars. This service was discontinued; but the company was anxious to re-establish something of the same kind, and the attention of many officers was turned to the subject. Among others, Captain Chesney took a great interest in it, and in 1829 undertook to make an examination of the various routes through which an overland route might be carried. Unaccompanied by any other European, he started from Cairo, visited Syria, crossed the desert to the Euphrates, which he descended to Bussorah. He then repaired to Bushire, crossed Persia, made his way to Trebizond, and ultimately, after another visit to Syria, returned to England. This tour must have taken him the greater part of two years.

The subject of his recent work is the second and more important expedition which he made by order of the British Government in the years 1835 to 1837. During his first journey he had from time to time sent home accounts which had greatly stimulated public curiosity. In the year 1834 it was resolved by Parliament to establish navigation by Suez and Bombay for eight months, by way of trial, and also to send an expedition to survey the Euphrates route, with the idea of placing steamers on that river and making it the high road to India. A sum of £20,000 was voted for the purpose, to which the East India Company added £5000. Colonel Chesney was chosen to command, and had with him a numerous and competent staff. The history of this enterprise is now before the public. There is a great deal that is interesting and instructive in it, and the obstacles to be overcome might have daunted anyone whose heart was not in the work. In the first place, Mehemet Ali, then at the summit of his greatness, and the virtual ruler of Syria, grew jealous—through, it was said, the artifices of Russia—and declined to allow the landing on the Syrian coast. As among other furniture of the expedition there were the materials of two steamers to be launched on the Euphrates, this was a serious matter, and it was actually proposed to turn back, sail round, and approach the Euphrates from the Persian Gulf. But the chief of the expedition probably bethought himself of a cardinal maxim in dealing with Orientals—if you are afraid of not being permitted to do a thing, do it without permission, for what you do thus it will be assumed you have a right to do. General Chesney and his people landed, and Mehemet Ali's officers allowed them to proceed. They carried their materials 140 miles from the mouth of the Orontes to the banks of the Euphrates. They put together their steamers with great labour and launched them successfully. They then trusted themselves to the stream. How the steamers excited the admiration of the Arabs; how one of them ran aground, and required the work of one hundred Arabs for fifteen days before it was got off; how they were overtaken by a hurricane, and one of their vessels destroyed, we have no space to describe. Suffice it to say that the remaining steamer descended the Euphrates 1153 miles to Bussorah, where the foreign Consuls and the inhabitants crowded to see the little vessel which had performed so extraordinary a feat.

In later days General Chesney has been known as advocating what is called the Euphrates Valley Railway. The progress of practical science has made it evident that wherever a railway can be carried and worked it must supersede other modes of communication; furthermore, river navigation has fallen into disrepute from its difficulty, its uncertainty, and its danger. But, whether the scheme be for railway or steam-boat, the question of the direct route to India must before long assume a high importance. The desire for a more rapid communication must follow the late extraordinary development of the telegraphic system. We send a message to Calcutta and receive an answer in a few hours; but a letter or a passenger still needs more than a month to make the voyage. The line which General Chesney surveyed thirty-three years ago is the natural highway between the Eastern and Western World. What shall be the terminus of the railway on either side is quite a subordinate matter. But it is evident that the more continuous the line is, and the more it brings the countries through which it passes into relation with the European system, the greater will be the advantage to England and India. The survey of the Euphrates Valley, as described in the present work, will have its value whenever any such work is undertaken, and whatever form it may assume.—*Times*.

#### TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT SAINT BENOIST.

Our Engraving represents the scene of an accident to a train at a part of the line near Poitiers, by which two persons were killed and eight seriously injured. On Friday, the 27th of last month, the train, which was composed of eight carriages and six goods-waggons, set out from Saint Sulpice-Lauriere, near Limoges, carrying twenty-five passengers. After having passed over that portion of the line which is on the way from Gençay, and gone several hundred metres towards the tunnel of Saint Benoist, the axle-tree of the seventh goods-wagon broke quite suddenly, and such a tremendous shock was the result that a portion of the axle-tree itself got wedged in the earth; and as the locomotive approached the entrance to the tunnel, the six carriages of the train, passing successively over this formidable obstacle, were thrown off the rails and fell completely over the abrupt slope to a depth of above 90 ft. upon a tongue of land situated between that dangerous stone ridge and the pretty river known as the Clain.

It was about half-past nine in the morning, and the pupils of the great seminary of Poitiers, who were out rusticking in the pleasant grounds of their neighbouring establishment, heard the tremendous crash, and at once began to make efforts to relieve the sufferers from the catastrophe. The doors of the carriages were forced open immediately, and most of the travellers liberated as quickly as possible, those of them who had escaped, almost by a miracle, from the effects of the accident lending their aid on behalf of their less fortunate companions.

A very remarkable display of coolness was made by a young fellow of about twenty-two years old, formerly one of the Pontifical zouaves. One of his legs was cut off by the accident; and while he sat staunching the blood which escaped from the limb, he pointed out to those who were around him his lost leg lying on the slope, and calmly watched that they brought it away with them. The broken portions of the carriages were formed into rough stretchers, on which the wounded were carried, and they were then placed in a boat which was by the flowery banks of the river, and had been at once brought to the scene of the disaster by one of the scholars, whose companions, in their black priest-like robes of the seminarians, conveyed the sufferers to a place of safety. Our illustration represents the scene of the accident at the time of the arrival of this welcome succour.

#### THE LATE COUP D'ETAT IN PORTUGAL.

MARSHAL SALDANHA, whose military coup d'état we have already recorded, has addressed a circular to the diplomatic agents of Portugal, in which he describes the situation of the kingdom and promises to introduce important political reforms. It may be interesting to some few people out of Portugal to know what the old Duke professes to think of the condition of the country which he has steadily sought to make the football of his ambition; and there may even be persons who will be curious to know what reforms he intends to propose to the present Cortes, which submits to, but protests against, his assumption of power, or to a new Parliament elected under the influences which every Portuguese Minister knows but too well how to apply. But the interest upon these points in or out of Portugal is comparatively small. What the world—that is to say, the portion of the world which concerns itself at all with the affairs of Portugal—wants to know is, what reason the Duke de Saldanha has to assign for a military conspiracy against the Government of the day, what justification he can pretend for suborning certain regiments and for regenerating Portugal by an attack upon the palace of the King, which did cost some lives, and which, but for the humanity or weakness of the Monarch, would have involved a murderous struggle. That the late Government was unpopular, and deservedly so, may be allowed, but that was no justification for a military conspiracy, which, practically, was directed as much against the prerogatives of the King as against the continuance in office of the Duke of Loulé and his colleagues. If any reasons could possibly justify the conduct of Marshal Saldanha, those reasons must be of the gravest character, and there ought to be no difficulty in stating them in such a form that they should command general acknowledgment. But hitherto the heroes of this coup d'état, of which King Louis is at present the chief victim, have given no reason whatever for their proceedings. The task of discovering those reasons has been left to their opponents, who have found no difficulty in assigning some plausible ones. Saldanha's restless ambition and greed of power is the main one; and it must be allowed that the Marshal's exercise of power goes a long way to justify the explanation. He has provided for his relatives after a fashion which recalls the nepotism of certain Popes. Other reasons are given even less credible, and of which we will say nothing. It is needless, indeed, to assign selfish and indefensible motives for an act which is *prima facie* selfish and indefensible. It is for the man who gets up a conspiracy, who leads soldiers he has seduced from their allegiance against the palace of their Sovereign, to defend himself, and to produce the only possible justification of his conduct in the proof that such a proceeding was absolutely necessary in the interests of the country. Hitherto Saldanha has made no attempt to do this, and for the simple reason that every attempt must be vain. There is probably little to choose between him and his colleagues and the Ministers whose places they have taken; but were they actuated by the most patriotic motives, of which there is no evidence, their proceedings would remain inexcusable.

THE COMPLETION OF ST. PAUL'S.—The scheme for the completion of St. Paul's, commenced by the late Dean Milman, has lately been revived, and is now being prosecuted with considerable vigour. An influential committee, consisting not only of some of the leading men in the City but of persons high in Church and State, and distinguished for their knowledge and practice of art, has been appointed, and is now hard at work. A public meeting in furtherance of the scheme will be held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, on Wednesday, July 13, when the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, and others, have promised to speak.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CAPTAIN.—We have had occasion to notice the successful performance of the Captain, in company with the Monarch (Captain J. E. Commerell, C.B., V.C.) and the Volage (Captain Sullivan, C.B.), in her first cruise to the rendezvous off Cape Finisterre, where she joined the Channel Fleet under the command of Admiral Symonds. We have now received further reports from the Captain, which state that they had a good gale, and the ship behaved most beautifully. When firing at a target in a strong breeze (force 7) and a considerable sea—the Minotaur, flagship of Admiral Symonds, steaming close to watch the shot—the first shot (1000 yards) dropped in water close to the target, and the third knocked it over; when the Admiral made the signal, "Well done, Captain!" During a whole day the Admiral, in the Minotaur, kept the ship steaming close to him in all positions, with turrets working, steaming sometimes at a rate of eleven knots; and after it was over, made a signal saying that he was much pleased. The Captain has now had everything to deal with, from a gale to a calm, working turrets and guns, &c., by steam, and firing with 60 deg. training, battering charges, and no damage to hurricane deck. The reports as to the performance of the ship in various ways, and under sail alone, are equally satisfactory.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S FAREWELL TO INDIA.—The Duke of Edinburgh, on leaving India, addressed a letter of farewell to Earl Mayo, which was read by his Excellency at a banquet at Lahore on May 5. The Duke says that he expressed in official replies the gratitude he felt for the kindness and hospitality everywhere shown to him; but is now anxious to give utterance to his thanks in a less formal manner. "When I returned to England two years ago," he adds, "the Queen was pleased to grant me a request that I had made long before, and to confer upon me an honour that I have coveted for years, that of being the first member of the Royal family to visit India." The Duke says that his anticipations of Oriental magnificence were more than realised by what he saw. He was deeply gratified by the reception he met with, and could not help being touched by the eagerness which the great mass of the people displayed to welcome him. Owing to the hurried character of his tour through the interior he could only obtain a bird's-eye view of the country; but he saw enough to interest him in its past history and present condition, and to show that the moral and social improvement of the poorer classes, and the importance of education, were occupying the attention of the more wealthy of the natives. The Duke concludes by saying that he shall ever feel deep interest in the welfare of India, for he has learnt to regard her people with affection, and is the glad bearer of a message of loyalty from them to the Queen.



sumption, and on the labourers' allotments; but so far they promise well. On the whole, though Bucks and Oxford, so far as we had opportunities of observing, may not this year be quite a land of Goshen, they will yield a goodly measure of food materials—sufficient, at all events, if the rest of the country be equally productive, and when supplemented by foreign supplies, to keep prices within moderate limits. We ought to add that the farmers' art is carried on with considerable skill in this neighbourhood. We saw some farms that might serve as models; and one at Chinnor, indeed, the occupant of which means to "put in" for a prize at a forthcoming competition at Oxford, with, we should think, a good prospect of success.

From the state of farming to that of the farm labourers is a natural transition, and in this respect also we are glad to have a tolerably satisfactory report to make. The money wages paid are small, it is true—only from eleven to twelve shillings a week; but then there are several extras, such as allotments of land either altogether free or at only nominal rents, piecework, or additional payments during haymaking and harvest, sometimes free cottages, and so on, that render the peasant's position in this quarter, at any rate, not so very miserable as it is usually deemed. Still there is ample scope for improvement, especially in respect of cottages, many—we may say most—of which are of the most primitive character and would well bear improving out of existence, new ones, of course, being substituted for them. One thing speaks favourably for the character of the peasantry: there is very little poaching, though game is plentiful; and we heard serious complaints of the mischief done by hares and rabbits in the fields, and by foxes in the poultry-sheds. By-the-by, speaking of poultry reminds us that duck-breeding is extensively practised by the peasantry and villagers in this neighbourhood: not a cottager here but rears several broods every season; every pond has its web-footed tenants and every garden its duck-shed; and those who get their ducklings early to market make a good thing of the venture. Pig-keeping is likewise general, and "bacon and cabbage" are viands not unknown even in the poorest dwelling.

We noticed a few curiosities in the course of our short peregrinations. The village pound and the parish stocks are institutions still extant, and we saw a greater curiosity than either—a man who had actually been fixed in the latter, we hope to his own improvement and the edification of his neighbours, though we doubt both results. But the greatest curiosity of all that we discovered, and about the impropriety of which we have no doubt whatever, was a parish parson who was also—parish constable, of all things on earth!—to which office, we were told, he had been appointed at his own earnest solicitation. Can clerical ambition, or clerical love of domination, further (or lower) go than that? Just fancy! a graduate of Oxford, say, peering about o' nights to see that village alehouses are shut up at proper hours; hauling inebriate peasants and vermin-covered vagrants to the lock-up; having an occasional "set-to" with the local "bruiser," and getting his reverend visage, maybe, discoloured or his sacerdotal vestments rent in the encounter! But, certainly, engendering disrespect for his office and character, and enmity to his person, among those whom it ought to be his special duty to conciliate and to lead by the bonds of love into the ways of righteousness. Not thus, as we think, ought a minister of religion and a preacher of the gospel of peace and good-will to demean himself. To this reverend Dogberry, whose name, we believe, is Allen, and his position *locum tenens* of the Vicar of Towersey, we commend a couple of sentences, written the other day by the Bishop of Manchester in reference to other matters, but applicable in spirit to the case of the Bucks clerico-constable:—"Let all things be done decently and in order" is a great maxim; but "Let all things be done unto edifying" is a greater; and the end of all our ministrations is to win our people's hearts, not to alienate them; to build up, not to disunite or destroy."

Of the scenery we passed through, we could dilate *ad infinitum*. The land, as we have said, is highly cultivated, and is everywhere dotted with fine trees, in clumps and strips as well as singly. The villages, though primitive and straggling—cottages being sometimes scattered about in the most seemingly hap-hazard fashion imaginable—are quaint and picturesque; the churches are of the ancient substantial style of construction so often met with in purely rural districts, and mostly "embosomed close with wood." The great feature of the landscape, however, is the range of hills that runs through the country, and a tour over which is a great treat indeed. This treat we were fortunate enough to enjoy. A friend kindly lent us a quiet, sure-footed nag—and lucky it was said nag was quiet and sure-footed, considering the nature of the ground and our limited equestrian powers—and, acting as our guide, took us up the steep side of the Oxford hills above Hempton, where the ascent is most abrupt and there is little more than a bridle-path, over the crest, and down by another route, where runs the high road from Oxford through High Wycombe to London; and where a wary hand has to be kept upon the rein—at such spots as the "goose-neck" turn, for instance—lest a sudden and disastrous descent over a precipice should be the meed of carelessness. On this part of the hills we had pointed to us the scene of a notable feat of horsemanship. A stag-hunt was in progress, and a certain Mr. Payne—who must have been "a free rider, and a bold"—carried away by the excitement of the chase, was over the crest of the hill and some way down the declivity ere he knew, or remembered, where he was. But the impetus was on; to stop was impossible—"downward, sheer downward, Sir Halbert must ride!" and downward at full gallop Mr. Payne did ride for a good half mile—to inevitable

destruction, as every spectator thought. By marvellous good fortune, however, man and horse emerged unscathed from the terrible ordeal, and were "first in" at the death of the stag on the plain below. Not so lucky was another equestrian who essayed a like feat, but of a much less daring kind. He escaped with a few bruises himself, but his steed had his neck broken; in memory of which event a white cross has been cut in the chalky soil, and marks the spot from afar. Another white cross—called "White-cliff Cross," we believe—is a conspicuous object in the view from below, but more towards Aylesbury, and can be seen from the towers of Oxford, certain colleges of which are the lords superior of large portions of the land hereabout. Some portions of the hills are bare of all save stunted heather, and are parish commons; but other parts are wooded even to the very summit, with patches of cultivated land interspersed. Of these hills, and from them, fine views are to be obtained; and we marvel much that artists and tourists have made so little of such scenes. Materials for a dozen fine landscape pictures might be collected in a single day; but, then, it is the old story: men go far afield in search of the picturesque and beautiful, and leave unnoticed what lies under their very noses. The country, too, is rich in interest for the antiquary and the archaeologist. There are ancient fabries (like the old barn at Towersey Grange, with its walls of from 3 ft. to 5 ft. thick), sites of battles and of graveyards, the memory of which liveth not, the fact that such things were being only evidenced by rusty fragments of weapons being now and then found and human bones being dug up in spots over which the plough has long passed.

Into these matters, however, we cannot now enter, but must hasten to mention the one drawback to the many inducements to visit the district we have been describing. The railway accommodation is execrable. The traveller is subjected to innumerable stoppages and changes, the only apparent object of which is delay; trains on one line do not fit in with those on another; at Aylesbury, for instance, the stations of the two companies—the London and North-Western and the Great Western—are at opposite sides of the town—as far apart, in fact, as possible; the times of arrival and departure being so arranged that a traveller must miss the trains, and must wait for an hour or two in that not very clean, nor picturesque, nor attractive town. Then the carriages (especially on the Great Western branch) are dirty, dilapidated, and uncomfortable; while the stations are seedy, and the officers anything but civil or obliging. All this is much to be regretted, because it tends to keep people away from a district that is otherwise well worth visiting, and must help to reduce shareholders' dividends to a low figure, or, as has been the case with the Great Western ere now, to prevent any dividend at all being paid.

#### "THE DECLARATION."

In this picture Mr. F. Wilhelm has exhibited those qualities of tender spirit combined with harmony of colour and the best sort of realism which make the fascination of the modern German and Flemish schools. The lady is no ethereal, ghostly beauty, but a charming, solid piece of flesh and blood; the suitor—albeit worn a little with the anxiety of his passion or with the sudden necessity of declaration—bearing a troubled expression, is no mere dainty loungee, dressed for a part. The old room, fittest place for a doubting lover to seek his fate (because its gaunt, dim emptiness, and the sense of solitude conveyed by it, will lead to a confiding, trustful, protection-seeking mood in the lady), is all in admirable keeping, even to the old-fashioned tapestry and furniture. Indeed, this little simple work is just such a finished picture as we love to see. Our engraving has been made by permission of Messrs. Goupil, to whom the original belongs.

**THE NATIONAL REVENUE.**—From April 1 to June 4 the total receipts into the exchequer amounted to £11,113,516, or nearly £2,000,000 short of the sum paid in during the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure was 11,172,613, and this was about £700,000 less than the issues from the exchequer in the first nine weeks of the financial year 1869. The interest on the national debt accounts for over six millions and a quarter, while the supply services voted by Parliament have already absorbed nearly five millions. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £7,876,582, and this was more by three millions and a half than the balance in the first week of June last year.

**A NEW ANÆSTHETIC.**—It is announced by several journals that Dr. Oscar Liebreich, to whom we owe protagon and the now well-known chloral, has discovered a new anodyne, to which the name of chloride of ethylide (*Aethylidenchlorid*) has been given. This substance, which has been repeatedly applied with perfect success in the clinical hospital of Dr. Langenbeck, is said to be more rapid and agreeable in its effects than chloroform. The chief merit, however, claimed for it is, that it may be administered without interfering with the free and natural breathing of the patient, an advantage which it possesses over most other anæsthetics. As the effect of the new body is stated to be very transient, the dose must be repeated in a lengthened operation.—*North German Correspondent.*

**GENERAL SIR GEORGE POLLOCK.**—General Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., G.C.S.I., who has been gazetted to the brevet rank of Field Marshal, is a younger brother of Sir Frederick Pollock, the late Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and is in his eighty-fourth year. Sir George entered the Bengal Artillery in 1803, and served in Lord Lake's campaigns in the two following years, including the memorable siege of Bhurtpore. He commanded the artillery of General Sullivan Wood's force, in the Nepal War of 1816, and served in the same capacity under Sir Archibald Campbell, in the Burmese War of 1824. The crowning achievement of his military career, however, took place in 1842, when he commanded the Bengal column of the army in Afghanistan, forced the Khyber Pass, relieved the garrison of Jellalabad, defeated the enemy in three separate actions, and finally recaptured Cabool, and obtained the release of the British prisoners. For these services the General received the thanks of Parliament, the Grand Cross of the Bath, and a pension of £1000 a year. In 1844 he was appointed a member of the Supreme Council of India, and in 1858 he was nominated by the Crown one of the directors of the East India Company.

**COCCULUS INDICUS AND BEER.**—There can be no question of the very large adulteration of beer with water. It has been established by the concurrent testimony of the best authorities. Although a fraud, this can hardly be said to be, in any sense, an unmixed evil. Those who contend that the more serious adulteration with *cocculus indicus* is rare should remember that the amount of *cocculus indicus* imported into this country at the present moment is sufficient for the adulteration of three fifths of the beer consumed in the United Kingdom. There is no other known use for the deleterious drug. It is utterly useless and never employed in medicine; and is equally useless and unemployed in the arts. Nevertheless, while the quantity imported in 1857 amounted to 68 cwt., it amounted in 1868 to 1064 cwt. It may also be stated that the use of *cocculus indicus* to give a fictitious strength to beer is not by any means confined to this country. According to a statement of Professor Dragendorff, formerly chemist to the St. Petersburg police, picROTOXINE—the active principle of *cocculus indicus*—is largely used for adulterating beer in Russia; and it is a frequent occurrence that brewers are fined on this account, and the beer confiscated. Schubert, of Wurzburg, also states that Bavarian beer is very often adulterated with *cocculus indicus*. Adulteration is not the peculiar privilege of British beer.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The Emperor Napoleon has been suffering from a slight attack of rheumatism, but was well enough to be able to be present at the weekly reception of the Empress on Monday evening.

It is officially announced that the Duke of Magenta, who, after the debate in the Legislative Body on Algeria, tendered his resignation, has again requested to be relieved of the Governor-Generalship of that colony. Yielding, however, to the wishes of the Ministry, he will continue to hold office provisionally, in order to give the proposed new organisation of Algeria the benefit of his experience. The Committee of the Budget recommends the suppression of the Privy Council.

M. Ollivier's Ministry suffered two defeats in the Legislative Chamber on Friday week, owing to a coalition of the Extreme Right with the Left. An amendment to a bill concerning the Councils General was proposed by M. Clément Duvernois, and opposed by M. Ollivier. On a division the numbers were—for the amendment, 197; against, 18. In another division which immediately followed the Ministry were again beaten, the numbers being 117 to 83. Last Saturday M. Ollivier said the work of the Cabinet was not only difficult but terrible, and declared that he deeply felt the tendency to want of confidence displayed by the Chamber on the previous day. Ultimately a unanimous vote in favour of the Ministry was passed.

The legal journals now publish the names of seventy-two persons against whom the Indictment Chamber of the High Court of Justice has found true bills. Of these M. Gustave Flourens, Felix Pyat, and two or three others are not in custody; the rest are committed for trial. There are six categories of crimes in the indictments:—1. "A conspiracy against the safety of the State and the life of the Emperor." On this head forty-seven of the accused are charged. All the names, with the exception of those of Flourens and "Tibaldi" (the latter will be read with surprise), are extremely obscure. 2. "An attempt against the safety of the State." Twenty-two people are accused of this crime, and the names of Flourens and Gromier, which appear in the first list, appear in this also. 3. "Pillage of private property in bands and by open force." Only three men, all utterly unknown, are accused of forming the "bands." 4. "An attempt at pillage." Gustave Flourens stands all alone in his glory to answer (when he shall be caught) this charge in the indictment, which alludes, it is supposed, to his attempt to get possession of the harlequin's sword and the other stage property of the Belleville Theatre, wherewith to carry on the war he proclaimed against the French Empire. 5. "Attempted murder." A man of the name of Prost is alone called upon to answer to this charge, 6. "Murder." Mégy (also indicted as a conspirator to take the Emperor's life) is the sole defendant on this head. He, it will be recollected, is the man who shot the *sergent-de-ville* who came to arrest him in his house at an early hour in the morning, which the prisoner alleges was before the legal time. The counsel retained for the prisoners mean to challenge every jurymen who, as a Councillor of State, signed an address to the Emperor congratulating him upon having escaped from a foul plot. The "plot" being the very thing to be tried, it will be said, in entire accordance with the spirit and letter of French jurisprudence, that persons who have already committed themselves to an opinion on the subject are not qualified to be jurors. It is quite possible—nay, probable—that there will not be upon the panel a sufficient number of jurymen not open to this objection. No doubt, however, the High Court, from whose judgment there is no appeal, will get over this little difficulty.

On Tuesday *Figaro* came out as a Republican paper, M. de Villemessant pompously announcing that for family reasons he had disposed of his journal, for a large sum, to a party he did not like. Then followed a "red" article, purporting to come from the pen of M. Rochefort; verses from Victor Hugo; adhesion to the new organ on the part of a crowd of brothers and sisters—Garibaldi, Georges Sand, Felix Pyat, &c. This joke appears to have been M. de Villemessant's own idea, but he can hardly feel flattered at the manner in which the public swallowed the news that *Figaro* had been sold to the Revolutionary party. Half Paris took the number as serious, and therefore believed the editor capable of transacting business with his bitter enemies. How Rochefort, Victor Hugo, and the other Radicals whose names have been made free with will view the matter remains to be seen.

A great fire occurred on Monday in the forest of Fontainebleau, when 200 acres are said to have been devastated.

### ITALY.

Small and insignificant risings are still taking place in various parts of Italy, but, as they meet with no encouragement from the inhabitants, they are quickly disposed of. It is stated that the authorities have seized plans for an insurrection and letters written by Mazzini. The President of the Correctional Tribunal of Milan has received a letter threatening him with death. The condition of public security in the province of Ravenna continues unsatisfactory.

### ROME.

It is stated in letters from Rome, published by the French papers, that a recent "scene" in the Ecumenical Council, when the general discussion on the dogma of infallibility was abruptly closed, was caused by the deafness of Mgr. Maret, the Bishop of Sura. That prelate was speaking against the dogma, and some of his remarks being misunderstood, or not well heard, interruptions arose. These, owing to his infirmity, he did not hear, and therefore continued his speech. Thereupon some of the members rose excitedly, and proposed the close of the general discussion. It is, however, declared that this course had been arranged beforehand.

A strong protest from the Opposition, with more than one hundred signatures, has been addressed to the Pope against the injustice done to the fifty Fathers who were prevented from speaking on the question of infallibility by the abrupt closing of the general discussion.

### SPAIN.

The Cortes has been engaged in debates on the Act touching the election of a Sovereign. An amendment was proposed that the election should be by universal suffrage, but this was rejected. A proposal made by Senor Roja Ariza that the King must have in his favour at least one half plus one of the entire Deputies, was carried by 138 to 124. This puts an end to the chances of Montpensier and all the other candidates, none of whom is able to unite 179 suffrages. Great excitement followed the vote.

A demonstration was made last Saturday by 5000 adherents of Marshal Espartero, who marched in procession with a flag bearing the inscription "Let the will of the nation accomplish the triumph of the rights of the people and of truth." The Unionist party have seceded from the Alphonstists, and will henceforth adopt the name of Septembristas.

### PORTUGAL.

The sittings of the Cortes have been suspended until Oct. 30. The Minister of the Interior has addressed a circular to the Prefects promising a reform of the Chamber of Peers and of the educational system, liberty of public meeting and of association, economy in the Administration, and legislation in harmony with individual rights. Marshal Saldanha demands the convocation of a Constituent Cortes, and also that the army should be increased to 30,000 men. Senhor Sampaio has left the Saldanha Cabinet on account of his opposition to the scheme for dissolving the Cortes and instituting a dictatorship.

### RUSSIA.

Hostilities have broken out between Russia and Khiva. Troops have already been sent against the latter country; they are to



company positions on the frontier and on the coast of the Caspian, in the vicinity of the new port of Krasnovodsk.

#### TURKEY.

A most destructive fire has occurred in Pera, the European quarter of Constantinople. It commenced at one o'clock on Sunday morning, and was not mastered until midnight. The British Embassy was among the edifices consumed, but the archives and plate were saved, and no one belonging to the establishment was injured. It appears that an entire district about one square mile in extent, and containing, it is said, nearly 20,000 houses, was destroyed. Many of these houses were inhabited by wealthy Armenians, who were out of town celebrating a fête day. Other persons, too, were away in the country spending the Sunday. As many as 250 dead bodies had been discovered. Several persons, too, had been killed since the fire by falling walls. Every effort was made by Sir Henry Elliott to save the British Embassy, but without effect. Lady Elliott was almost suffocated when she left the building. An estimate in the *Levant Herald* fixes the loss at five millions sterling.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate recommends the ratification of the Naturalisation Treaty recently negotiated between Lord Clarendon and Mr. Motley.

The House of Representatives, in framing the new Internal Tax Bill, has adopted an amendment, by 90 to 65 votes, the effect of which would be to levy a tax of 5 per cent upon the interest of the Government bonds. This amendment will probably be reconsidered, as several members have denounced it as a partial repudiation.

The Conservative Republicans have elected Mr. Emery Mayor of Washington, defeating his Radical opponent. The Democrats in Oregon have carried the State elections.

Delegations of prominent Jews are visiting Washington to urge upon the President to intercede on behalf of the persecuted Jews in Roumania. It is supposed they will succeed in their mission.

#### CANADA.

The Governor General has publicly thanked the volunteers and militia for their prompt response to the call to resist the Fenian invasion. General Lindsay spoke on the same occasion, and attributed the easy defeat of the invaders to the accuracy of firing of the Canadian forces. General Lindsay has, moreover, issued a general order, acknowledging the promptitude of the troops.

Telegrams declared to be from authentic sources represent Riel as preparing to resist the advance of the expedition to the Red River.

#### CUBA.

General Rodas telegraphs that a filibustering expedition from New York, by the steamer George B. Upton, disembarked near Neuvitas, in Cuba. They were attacked by the Spanish troops, assisted by two gun-boats, and dispersed, losing ten killed, two drowned, and three captured. 17,000 rifles and a large supply of ammunition were captured. The steamer George B. Upton with the balance of her cargo and men then sailed, it is supposed, for Colombia. A New York telegram says that 2000 rifles, six tons of powder, and some artillery fell into the hands of the Spaniards.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

Information has been received at the Colonial Office confirming the intelligence already received of the success obtained by the native chiefs Kemp and Ropata. Te Kooti is said to be hiding, with a few followers.

#### THE FENIAN RAID ON CANADA.

ACCORDING to the New York papers, the late movement of the Fenians on Canada was determined upon owing to the frequent quarrels among the members of the brotherhood. Contributions towards the undertaking were given on the condition that unless a forward movement was made before June 1 the money should revert to the subscribers. Appreciating fully the condition of affairs, General O'Neill decided to mass bodies of troops at Malone, at Franklin, and other points on the frontier, hoping that the diversion of the volunteers to Red River would leave the field open for an attack which, if simultaneous, must result in success. When the Fenians crossed the line, the volunteers waited until the last of their antagonists had set foot upon British soil, and then volley after volley of musketry was fired into their ranks. The battle had begun. So unexpected was this attack that the Fenians became panic-stricken, and scattered like wildfire behind the walls and fences and into the bays, behind the bark pile, and anywhere that shelter could be obtained. General O'Neill, who had been concealed behind a house, rushed forth with drawn sword and shouted to his scattering soldiers. Gaining an audience, he said:—"Men of Ireland! I am ashamed of you. You have acted disgracefully, but you have another chance of showing whether you are cravens or not. Comrades! I will lead you again; and if you will not follow me, I will go with my officers and die in your front. I leave you now, under command of Boyle and O'Reilly." Skirmishing was then recommenced, and continued for about one hour, when General O'Neill drew back his forces from the brow of the hill for the purpose of rest. He was then approached by several of his officers, who requested permission to charge the hill; but, bearing in mind the unlucky result of a similar operation at Fredericksburg during the rebellion, he refused. Yielding partially, however, to their wishes, he ordered them to charge across the open valley and take a position on the wooded hill directly opposite the Canadian forces. The movement was executed in the double quick; but while climbing the hill Private Thomas Murray, of Portland, Me., fell, shot through the heart; and Francis Caraher, of Bridgeport, Conn., received a wound in the groin. The General, in company with Boyle and O'Reilly, walked down the side of the hill and entered the parlour of the brick house, encountering General George Foster, who, with his deputy, Thomas Farley, of St. Albans, was seated in the parlour. O'Neill reached out his hand, but the greeting was refused; and General Foster, placing his hand on O'Neill's shoulder, said, "I arrest you, by virtue of my authority as a District Marshal of the United States." "Sir," exclaimed General O'Neill, starting back as he spoke, "I shall resist your arrest." "It will be useless, Sir," replied General Foster. "But, Sir, I am armed." "So am I," said the General. "John, open that carriage door. Now, Mr. O'Neill, get in, or I will throw you in. I am going to take you to St. Albans, right through the midst of your men; and if you make the slightest outcry I will shoot you dead." Resistance was useless, as the General had said, and O'Neill placed himself in the carriage and was driven to St. Albans. The fighting, after this arrest, with the exception of an occasional shot or two, was not renewed.

The Canadian papers contain long accounts of the late Fenian raid. Before any movement actually took place a great deal of excitement had been aroused throughout Canada by the reports which arrived from all parts of the United States that another "invasion" was being prepared. The *Toronto Globe* says, however, that not the slightest alarm appears to have been felt in any part of the colony. "The feeling universally elicited," it adds, "has been mainly one of keen indignation and of earnest desire that the marauders should be allowed to penetrate some distance into the country, so that their punishment might be more sure and memorable."

THE GIBRALTAR BRIGADES.—The conclusion of the Gibraltar brigades affair is highly satisfactory. First, both the Bonellis, uncle and nephew, having paid the ransom, were on Tuesday released by their captors; and, secondly, as the latter were returning from Puerto Santa Maria with their booty, they were waylaid by the Spanish Guardia Civil, who killed three out of the four brigands, and, it is said, recovered the ransom. The fourth villain, who managed to escape, is expected to be soon captured. An attempt has been made near Gibraltar to capture two more Englishmen, officers of the garrison. The brigands were, however, driven off by the Civil Guards, with a loss of one killed and one wounded.

#### THE EUPHRATES VALLEY ROUTE TO INDIA.

Among those who have given their lives with persevering devotion to a single great object, the name of General Chesney, the surveyor and untiring advocate of the Euphrates Valley Route to India, deserves to be remembered. He has not succeeded—he may never succeed—so far as to look with his own eyes upon the completion of the work which he has meditated for forty years. But assuredly the time is not far distant when the floating ideas upon this subject will take a practical form—when what has been visionary will be accepted as feasible, politically advantageous, and even peculiarly safe. Then the seed sown by General Chesney, the plant patiently tended by him during so many years, will spring up rapidly and bear fruit. In fame, if not in fortune, he will have his reward, and be reckoned, with a Waghorn or a Lesseps, among the real benefactors of his age.

Among what we may almost call the last generation the enterprise of General Chesney was better known than at present. His plans have been for many years disregarded, owing to the extraordinary success of the Red Sea route, which has fairly supplied the actual wants of England and India. The sea is the highway of nations, and particularly of the English race. Indeed, Englishmen never feel themselves quite independent in their communication with a distant country unless they can avoid intervening foreign territories. At this moment a circuitous line of submarine telegraph is being laid down from Falmouth to Gibraltar, Malta, and Alexandria, in order that the communication between England and her Eastern dominions may be made independent of foreign Powers. From Falmouth to Bombay nothing foreign will be touched but a little strip of Egyptian ground. The passenger route by the Red Sea has had the advantage of this independence, while the speed and regularity of the service have amply satisfied the present generation. But when General Chesney first came before the public the "Overland Route" was not in existence. All the traffic with India was carried on round the Cape, and the greater part of a year must pass before a letter to Calcutta could receive an answer. There had been little real progress since the days of Clive and Hastings. The Indians were a little bigger, a little better built, and contrived to make the voyage in perhaps two-thirds of the time required sixty years before, for the winds and currents of the Indian Ocean and the South Atlantic had been more fully studied. But when King William IV. ascended the throne the world was just coming to the end of an old dispensation with regard to human movement both on sea and land. There were steam-boats here and there on the rivers, and there existed such a thing as a railway. Many active and ardent minds were at work in the great field of improving communication. The world had been at peace for fifteen years; it had begun to breathe again after its exhaustion, and its thoughts were turned to peace and mutual intercourse. On the work of the last forty years it would be useless to expatiate; the face of the earth has been transformed, the whole life of man has been changed, the social habits and the political traditions of the old days are rapidly passing away, and these astonishing results are due chiefly, if not wholly, to facility and speed of locomotion. Among those who have laboured in this field most earnestly General Chesney is to be reckoned. His great expedition is in the remembrance of our older readers, and the narrative of it which he has lately published, after an interval of more than thirty years, gives us the opportunity of drawing attention to his services and the probable value of them in the future.

It was in the year 1829 that the East India Company once more turned its attention to overland communication between London and Calcutta. We say once more, because towards the close of the last century the idea of sending despatches by way of the Persian Gulf had occurred to Marquis Wellesley. He had organised mails twice a month by small vessels between Bombay and Bussorah; thence Arabs, mounted on camels, carried the despatches across the desert to Aleppo, whence they were conveyed to Constantinople by Tartars. This service was discontinued; but the company was anxious to re-establish something of the same kind, and the attention of many officers was turned to the subject. Among others, Captain Chesney took a great interest in it, and in 1829 undertook to make an examination of the various countries through which an overland route might be carried. Unaccompanied by any other European, he started from Cairo, visited Syria, crossed the desert to the Euphrates, which he descended to Bussorah. He then repaired to Bushire, crossed Persia, made his way to Trebizond, and ultimately, after another visit to Syria, returned to England. This tour must have taken him the greater part of two years.

The subject of his recent work is the second and more important expedition which he made by order of the British Government in the years 1835 to 1837. During his first journey he had from time to time sent home accounts which had greatly stimulated public curiosity. In the year 1834 it was resolved by Parliament to establish navigation by Suez and Bombay for eight months, by way of trial, and also to send an expedition to survey the Euphrates route, with the idea of placing steamers on that river and making it the high road to India. A sum of £20,000 was voted for the purpose, to which the East India Company added £5000. Colonel Chesney was chosen to command, and had with him a numerous and competent staff. The history of this enterprise is now before the public. There is a great deal that is interesting and instructive in it, and the obstacles to be overcome might have daunted anyone whose heart was not in the work. In the first place, Mehemet Ali, then at the summit of his greatness, and the virtual ruler of Syria, grew jealous—through, it was said, the artifices of Russia—and declined to allow the landing on the Syrian coast. As among other furniture of the expedition there were the materials of two steamers to be launched on the Euphrates, this was a serious matter, and it was actually proposed to turn back, sail round, and approach the Euphrates from the Persian Gulf. But the chief of the expedition probably bethought himself of a cardinal maxim in dealing with Orientals—if you are afraid of not being permitted to do a thing, do it without permission, for what you do thus it will be assumed you have a right to do. General Chesney and his people landed, and Mehemet Ali's officers allowed them to proceed. They carried their materials 140 miles from the mouth of the Orontes to the banks of the Euphrates. They put together their steamers with great labour and launched them successfully. They then trusted themselves to the stream. How the steamers excited the admiration of the Arabs; how one of them ran aground, and required the work of one hundred Arabs for fifteen days before it was got off; how they were overtaken by a hurricane, and one of their vessels destroyed, we have no space to describe. Suffice it to say that the remaining steamer descended the Euphrates 1153 miles to Bussorah, where the foreign Consuls and the inhabitants crowded to see the little vessel which had performed so extraordinary a feat.

In later days General Chesney has been known as advocating what is called the Euphrates Valley Railway. The progress of practical science has made it evident that wherever a railway can be carried and worked it must supersede other modes of communication; furthermore, river navigation has fallen into disrepute from its difficulty, its uncertainty, and its danger. But, whether the scheme be for railway or steam-boat, the question of the direct route to India must before long assume a high importance. The desire for a more rapid communication must follow the late extraordinary development of the telegraphic system. We send a message to Calcutta and receive an answer in a few hours; but a letter or a passenger still needs more than a month to make the voyage. The line which General Chesney surveyed thirty-three years ago is the natural highway between the Eastern and Western World. What shall be the terminus of the railway on either side is quite a subordinate matter. But it is evident that the more continuous the line is, and the more it brings the countries through which it passes into relation with the European system, the greater will be the advantage to England and India. The survey of the Euphrates Valley, as described in the present work, will have its value whenever any such work is undertaken, and whatever form it may assume.—*Times*.

#### TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT SAINT BENOIST.

OUR Engraving represents the scene of an accident to a train at a part of the line near Poitiers, by which two persons were killed and eight seriously injured. On Friday, the 27th of last month, the train, which was composed of eight carriages and six goods-waggons, set out from Saint Sulpice-Lauriere, near Limoges, carrying twenty-five passengers. After having passed over that portion of the line which is on the way from Gençay, and gone several hundred metres towards the tunnel of Saint Benoist, the axle-tree of the seventh goods-wagon broke quite suddenly, and such a tremendous shock was the result that a portion of the axle-tree itself got wedged in the earth; and as the locomotive approached the entrance to the tunnel, the six carriages of the train, passing successively over this formidable obstacle, were thrown off the rails and fell completely over the abrupt slope to a depth of above 90 ft. upon a tongue of land situated between that dangerous stone ridge and the pretty river known as the Clain.

It was about half-past nine in the morning, and the pupils of the great seminary of Poitiers, who were out rustication in the pleasant grounds of their neighbouring establishment, heard the tremendous crash, and at once began to make efforts to relieve the sufferers from the catastrophe. The doors of the carriages were forced open immediately, and most of the travellers liberated as quickly as possible, those of them who had escaped, almost by a miracle, from the effects of the accident lending their aid on behalf of their less fortunate companions.

A very remarkable display of coolness was made by a young fellow of about twenty-two years old, formerly one of the Pontifical zouaves. One of his legs was cut off by the accident; and while he sat stanching the blood which escaped from the limb, he pointed out to those who were around him his lost leg lying on the slope, and calmly watched that they brought it away with them. The broken portions of the carriages were formed into rough stretchers, on which the wounded were carried, and they were then placed in a boat which was by the flowery banks of the river, and had been at once brought to the scene of the disaster by one of the scholars, whose companions, in their black priest-like robes of the seminarians, conveyed the sufferers to a place of safety. Our illustration represents the scene of the accident at the time of the arrival of this welcome succour.

#### THE LATE COUP D'ETAT IN PORTUGAL.

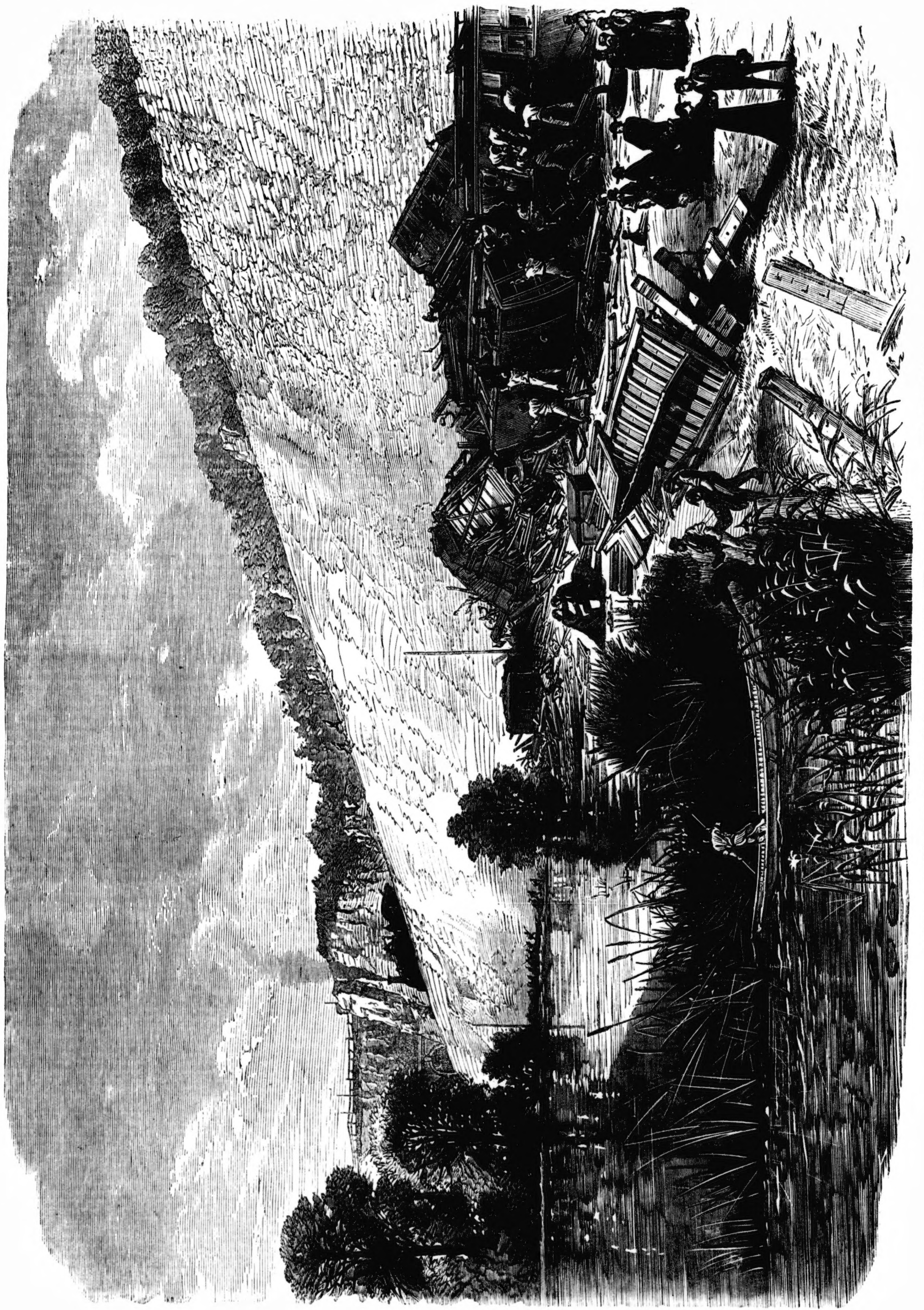
MARSHAL SALDANHA, whose military coup d'état we have already recorded, has addressed a circular to the diplomatic agents of Portugal, in which he describes the situation of the kingdom and promises to introduce important political reforms. It may be interesting to some few people out of Portugal to know what the old Duke professes to think of the condition of the country which he has steadily sought to make the football of his ambition; and there may even be persons who will be curious to know what reforms he intends to propose to the present Cortes, which submits to, but protests against, his assumption of power, or to a new Parliament elected under the influences which every Portuguese Minister knows but too well how to apply. But the interest upon these points in or out of Portugal is comparatively small. What the world—that is to say, the portion of the world which concerns itself at all with the affairs of Portugal—wants to know is, what reason the Duke de Saldanha has to assign for a military conspiracy against the Government of the day, what justification he can pretend for suborning certain regiments and for regenerating Portugal by an attack upon the palace of the King, which did cost some lives, and which, but for the humanity or weakness of the Monarch, would have involved a murderous struggle. That the late Government was unpopular, and deservedly so, may be allowed, but that was no justification for a military conspiracy, which, practically, was directed as much against the prerogatives of the King as against the continuance in office of the Duke of Loule and his colleagues. If any reasons could possibly justify the conduct of Marshal Saldanha, those reasons must be of the gravest character, and there ought to be no difficulty in stating them in such a form that they should command general acknowledgment. But hitherto the heroes of this coup d'état, of which King Louis is at present the chief victim, have given no reason whatever for their proceedings. The task of discovering those reasons has been left to their opponents, who have found no difficulty in assigning some plausible ones. Saldanha's restless ambition and greed of power is the main one; and it must be allowed that the Marshal's exercise of power goes a long way to justify the explanation. He has provided for his relatives after a fashion which recalls the nepotism of certain Popes. Other reasons are given even less creditable, and of which we will say nothing. It is needless, indeed, to assign selfish and indefensible motives for an act which is *prima facie* selfish and indefensible. It is for the man who gets up a conspiracy, who leads soldiers he has seduced from their allegiance against the palace of their Sovereign, to defend himself, and to produce the only possible justification of his conduct in the proof that such a proceeding was absolutely necessary in the interests of the country. Hitherto Saldanha has made no attempt to do this, and for the simple reason that every attempt must be vain. There is probably little to choose between him and his colleagues and the Ministers whose places they have taken; but were they actuated by the most patriotic motives, of which there is no evidence, their proceedings would remain inexcusable.

THE COMPLETION OF ST. PAUL'S.—The scheme for the completion of St. Paul's, commenced by the late Dean Milman, has lately been revived, and is now being prosecuted with considerable vigour. An influential committee, consisting not only of some of the leading men in the City but of persons high in Church and State, and distinguished for their knowledge and practice of art, has been appointed, and is now hard at work. A public meeting in furtherance of the scheme will be held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, on Wednesday, July 13, when the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Winchester, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, and others, have promised to speak.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP CAPTAIN.—We have had occasion to notice the successful performance of the Captain, in company with the Monarch (Captain J. E. Commerell, C.B., V.C.) and the Volage (Captain Sullivan, C.B.), in her first cruise to the rendezvous off Cape Finisterre, where she joined the Channel Fleet under the command of Admiral Symonds. We have now received further reports from the Captain, which state that they had a good gale, and the ship behaved most beautifully. When firing at a target in a strong breeze (force 7) and a considerable sea—the Minotaur, flagship of Admiral Symonds, steaming close to watch the shot—the first shot (1000 yards) dropped in water close to the target, and the third knocked it over; when the Admiral made the signal, "Well done, Captain!" During a whole day the Admiral, in the Minotaur, kept the ship steaming close to him in all positions, with turrets working, steaming sometimes at a rate of eleven knots; and after it was over, made a signal saying that he was much pleased. The Captain has now had everything to deal with, from a gale to a calm, working turret and guns, &c., by steam, and firing with 6 deg. training, battering charges, and no damage to hurricane deck. The reports as to the performance of the ship in various ways, and under sail alone, are equally satisfactory.

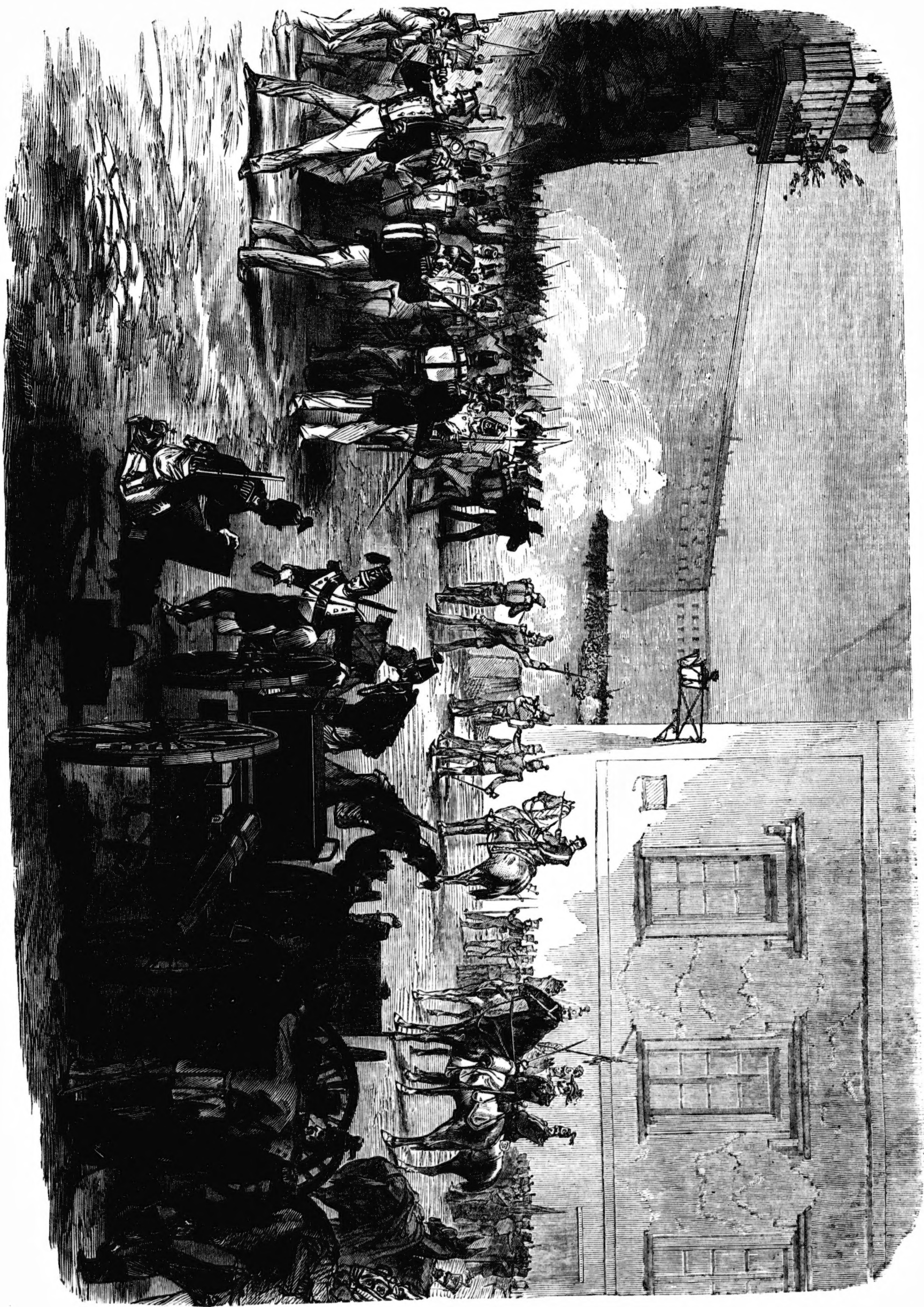
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S FAREWELL TO INDIA.—The Duke of Edinburgh, on leaving India, addressed a letter of farewell to Earl Mayo, which was read by his Excellency at a banquet at Lahore on May 5. The Duke says that he expressed in official replies the gratitude he felt for the kindness and hospitality everywhere shown to him; but is now anxious to give utterance to his thanks in a less formal manner. "When I returned to England two years ago," he adds, "the Queen was pleased to grant me a request that I had made long before, and to confer upon me an honour that I have coveted for years, that of being the first member of the Royal family to visit India." The Duke says that his anticipations of Oriental magnificence were more than realised by what he saw. He was deeply gratified by the reception he met with, and could not help being touched by the eagerness which the great mass of the people displayed to welcome him. Owing to the hurried character of his tour through the interior he could only obtain a bird's-eye view of the country; but he saw enough to interest him in its past history and present condition, and to show that the moral and social improvement of the poorer classes, and the importance of education, were occupying the attention of the more wealthy of the natives. The Duke concludes by saying that he shall ever feel deep interest in the welfare of India, for he has learnt to regard her people with affection, and is the glad bearer of a message of loyalty from them to the Queen.





RAILWAY DISASTER AT ST. BENOIST, NEAR POTTERS, FRANCE: THE FIRST AID GIVEN TO THE SUFFERERS.





THE LATE COUP D'ETAT IN PORTUGAL: MARSHAL SALDANHA ATTACKING THE ROYAL PALACE



## THE LOUNGER.

THE Irish Land Bill is, happily, "through Temple Bar." And "now the next?" The next is the Government University Tests Bill, which will get into, and most likely through, Committee on Monday; and on Thursday Mr. Forster will come to the front at last with his Education Bill. He got this bill read a second time many weeks ago, but has had to stand aside, restless and impatient, and at times despondent, whilst the Irish Land Bill was painfully wriggling through the House. Now, however, to his great joy, the road is clear—that is to say, there are no bills in his way. Absolutely clear it is not, for a number of amendments stand in his path. But on looking over the paper, I do not see any that are likely to stop the bill or much impede it. Some of these, probably, Mr. Forster will have to accept; some he will resist, and resist successfully; and I am sanguine that by the end of June his bill will be through the "Bar" and in the Upper House. Let us hope that the Lords by that date will nearly, if not quite, have got through the clauses of the Irish Land Bill. It took the House of Commons a much longer time "to consider" this bill. But the Lords always work more rapidly than the Commons, and in this case they will have less to impede them, inasmuch as the party which so obstructed the bill in the House of Commons—to wit, the extreme Irish party—does not exist in the Upper House. There are no Synans, nor Sir John Grays, nor McCarthy Downings, nor Maguires there; and then their Lordships have no constituents to talk to. Most of those long-winded harangues which came from the gentlemen named were addressed to Ireland, and not to the House; and it is not too much to say that if all the talk which was meant for Ireland could have been eliminated from the discussions in Committee, the bill would have got to the Upper House a month before it did. I think that Mr. Forster will get his bill through by the end of June. If this can be done, he is the man to do it. He is so skilful at this work, and so patient and conciliatory.

But some extreme Nonconformists or extreme Secularists may ask, Ought this bill as it stands to be passed? Well, to such I reply thus:—Improve the bill if you can—by which I mean, make it more to your minds if you can—but if you cannot, then accept it as it is. There is a vast amount of good in the measure, and, to my mind, not much that is objectionable. The religious difficulty, which at one time looked so formidable, has, I think, by the amendment which Mr. Forster has placed upon the paper, been almost got out of the way. Theology is not to be taught in school hours, but before or after, or before and after, and the attendance is to be voluntary, and no scholar who shall not attend shall lose any of the other advantages of the school. This concession is not all that we would desire, but it is, perhaps, all that we could expect. Mr. Forster is not a despot, but a Constitutional Minister. I question whether the Government would like to give more. I doubt, also, whether the House of Commons would sanction the entire abolition of theological teaching; and, as to the people out of doors, I think that, if they were polled, we should find that a large majority are against it. It is a compromise, as almost all legislation in countries governed by representative constitutions must be. But all will come right in the end, and we Radicals shall get what we want if we will but patiently wait. At first these theological classes will be populated with many parents; never, though, with the boys, we may be sure. Fancy a boy having to be at school an hour before the usual time, or to stop an hour after, to learn catechisms and collects! In summer this will be anything but pleasant. It winter it will be intolerable; and, though I pretend not to more sagacity than is usually allowed to mortals, I venture to foretell that in a few years these extra theological classes will die of inanition, and our public schools, in the matter of religious instruction, will be managed much as they are now. Yes, as they are now; for it is a fact that, great and loud as the outcry has been in favour of theological education, in almost all our public schools, even in those over which clergymen preside, there is little or none.

The Government Parliamentary Elections Bill—I think that is the name of it—is the next, and perhaps the only other, bill on the paper of very great importance. I hardly know what to say about the prospects of this bill. We are now in June, shall be in the middle of it before the end of next week, and there lies ahead of us a heavy load of work to be done. Besides the Education Bill there are many smaller measures on the paper which must be passed, and sundry votes on the Army and Navy Estimates, and all the Civil Service Estimates, to be dealt with. Moreover, there is an essential Irish Marriage Bill, not yet brought in, which I learn, and as one can easily conceive, will be wrangled over a good deal. I should not be surprised if we should have to shunt the Election Bill. And what matter? There will be no general election this year, nor next, that is pretty certain; and as to isolated elections, they can be managed after the present fashion, without much harm.

Besides those bills which I have mentioned, I do not think that there are any important measures which the Government must get passed this Session. But here is before me the Order Book: we will run through it and see what it contains. The first important Government bill, beside those mentioned already, I see is the Army Enlistment Bill for Committee. There has been a good deal of talk on this bill, and I am told that there is to be a great deal more; but, as there are no amendments to it on the paper, one would say that Mr. Cardwell will carry it through without much difficulty. Mr. Lefevre's Merchant Shipping Code Bill stands for second reading on Friday, June 10; when, if it should then come on, Mr. Goulray will move that it be referred to a Select Committee; and Mr. Graves gives notice that he will move that part 2, and Sir John Pakington that parts 3 and 6, shall be so referred. I think that probably this bill will ultimately be referred to the schedule of "innocents," which soon her Majesty's Government will have to make out. The next, and the only remaining important Government measure is the Mines Regulations Bill, introduced by Mr. Secretary Bruce early in the Session. This is a very important measure. It stands for Committee on Friday, June 17; but it is not likely that it will come on then. Indeed, the prospects of this bill, though the Government is anxious to get it passed, are clouded. There are several pages of amendments to it on the paper; and unless Mr. Gladstone can find for it two or three morning sittings—and how he is to do this I cannot see—the regulation of mines will not be accomplished this Session. Here, then, we have the programme of the Government work. It does not look much upon paper. But my readers must remember that there are nearly 150 votes in Supply to be got; and that the Irish Land and the Education Bills will have to be "considered as amended" by the Lords; and, further, that between now and the middle of August the Government cannot command more, including morning sittings on Tuesdays and Fridays—private members' nights—than about fifty sittings. Some say that the House will not rise until the end of August; and it may be so. In 1860 the House sat until Aug. 29. I have said nothing about private members' bills, because they never keep the House a day. If private members can get their bills through on days set apart for them, let them. If this cannot be done the bills must drop. Nor have I mentioned the bills which may yet come down from the Lords. There cannot be many to come, for their Lordships have not sat after dinner more than nine or ten times during the Session.

Long-looked for come at last. After Aug. 31 all appointments to situations in the Civil Service departments, except the Foreign Office—why the Foreign Office is excepted I do not know—are to be given to those who can win them in competitive examinations. About a dozen years ago Lord Goderich, now Earl De Grey and Ripon, moved a resolution in the House of Commons to the effect "That all candidates for situations in the Civil Service should undergo a preliminary examination;" and he defeated the Government, who opposed the resolution. His Lordship's object was twofold: to secure competent Government servants, and also to destroy corruption by patronage. I remember the night when his Lordship carried his resolution, and how anxious

Mr. Hayter was to defeat the motion, and how dismayed he was when he heard the numbers proclaimed at the table. He had whipped up all available Government men to support him, and thought that he should win; but he found, on looking over the division lists, that some whom he had whipped up voted against him, and there was consternation on the Treasury Bench. The Government did not obey this resolution for some time; but the thing was done at last, and, in one way at least, the new system was beneficial. It scotched the old snake Corruption, though it did not kill it. Members could still give nominations to places, but they could not ensure that the nominees would get the places. Now the snake will be killed outright. The services are to be open to all; and the best man, whatever may be his politics, will win. Mr. Glyn is the patronage Secretary to the Treasury, and he gives the nominations to nearly all the departments. Of all this patronage he will by this reform be deprived. And I venture to say that he will deem the loss a great gain. The contents of his letter-box will, I suspect, be diminished by one half. He now employs two private secretaries. He will be able to do with one.

That letter of Professor Goldwin Smith to Mr. Disraeli, which has just been made public, seems to me a very ill-advised affair. The writer is evidently angry, and shows it: which are precisely the results, probably, at which the author of "Lothair" aimed when he used the utterly inappropriate phrase "social parasite" in reference to the ex-Oxford Professor. The "calumny" has stung, that's clear; and Disraeli consequently will care very little, having hit his mark, about the retaliatory "coward." The learned Professor would have done more wisely had he laughed at the ex-Premier's spleen, and let the inapplicability of his words be their own answer.

Several correspondents ask information and advice about pens. This is not a matter concerning which one very well can advise—tastes, habits, and requirements so greatly vary. All I can do is to repeat what I have already said, that Mason's enamelled pen is worthy of notice for its anti-corrosive merits—its other qualities I have not yet fully tested; and that the "Nile pen" suits me well in all respects but one—it does corrode, which is a serious drawback to its usefulness. Still, I mean to stick to it till I discover a better; and, without making myself a medium of advertising, I may state, for the benefit of inquirers, that the makers are Macniven and Cameron, of Blair-street, Edinburgh.

Messrs. Adams and Francis, of Fleet-street, have just issued an exceedingly well-executed photo-chromolith of Burns's "Tam o' Shanter" and "Lament of Mary Queen of Scots," in which every line, dot, or erasure appears as the manuscript came from the poet's hand. This publication is the result of a new application of photography, or, rather, of a combination of photography and lithography; and is unerringly accurate, and therefore exceedingly interesting to all who take an interest in autographs. Here, for instance, we have reproduced for us two compositions in which the blots, erasures, interlineations, and so forth, are copied in their minutest details. Where the poet hesitated, where he corrected, where he inserted lines, even where his hand faltered, may here be seen; and those theorists who undertake to determine men's characters from the nature of their handwriting will be able to discover confirmations of their views, for the bold, decided, and clearly legible character in which Burns wrote affords clear indications of the quality of the author's mind. The text of the poems is also given in print, and the brochure is sure to be extensively bought and highly prized.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

## THE MAGAZINES.

In the *Cornhill*—a magazine, as I have said before, which rarely flags, or falls below its own high standard—we have some notes upon Spanish matters, which will be readily traced to their author; and very good reading indeed is "The Lions of Catalonia." So is "Marathon, and its Brigands," one of a class of papers which has from the first been almost a specialty of the *Cornhill*. This magazine is usually to the fore with the topic of the hour, and invariably with something trustworthy as well as piquant. The author of the Spanish notes has some obviously true things to say about certain Spanish wines which ought to be naturalised in England. But he is not aware, apparently, that we are at least supposed to have some of them here already. I have drunk priorato, to which he refers, and liked it. He gives a most amusing account of a Spanish gaol. Just think of a lot of blackguards, thieves, and assassins, chained up, it is true, but comfortably smoking cigars, and blowing tunes on brass instruments, not, of course, just while they are smoking, but in a nonchalant way, to amuse the visitor! It is a very southern picture, and redolent of "Gil Blas"—what a splendid sentence is that!

*Macmillan* is much lighter than it used to be. It has dropped its old rugged air of intense earnestness, and has taken to being various and lively. Mrs. Brotherton, on "A Forgotten English Poetess" (ah, there are a good many forgotten poetesses, and poets also, for that matter!) and Mrs. Macquoid, in a little story called "Fidene," are well worth turning to. So is the thoughtful essay on "Principles and Prejudices." But the author will not succeed in getting the meaning of the latter noun shifted. Nor will he succeed in persuading some of us that the existence of secondhand opinions, and those only in the masses of mankind, is a thing to be acquiesced in. It is quite true that most men and women have, as he says, no opinions that are not secondhand; that their beliefs in religion, morals, and politics are what they have caught as children catch measles; but what then? This is a fact; but so is murder, so is theft, so is bribery, so is sheer superstition. It is nothing to affirm that things are so and so. No doubt; but, *après*? If they are not as they ought to be, we must beware of adopting a nomenclature of acquiescence, much more of approval. A man is not entitled to profess to hold any opinions which he cannot justify to himself by arguments which are to him wholly satisfactory. If he has never doubted, it is wrong to apply the word prejudice opprobriously. And that is all that can be said. On one point I entirely agree with this writer—namely, that the first principles of opposing schools in religion and politics are now stripped bare, and that there is no room for any fundamentally new conception in either sphere.

In *Good Words* there is some highly interesting matter. Dr. Macleod on Indian affairs, with some facts about the suppression of the mutiny, is very delightful; and the Rev. H. W. Holland, on "The Thieves' Quarter," deals forcibly with a very difficult question. The authoress of "Stone Edge" is one of the most charming and intelligent of our storytellers. But, apropos of "Dorothy Fox," that young man at the girl's feet is the most ineffectual sponger that ever didn't know what to do with his legs (a neatly-turned phrase, I flatter myself).

After a gap, the *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine* comes back to me, purged—I hope for ever—of its sin. But I trust the editor, or whoever it was, is suffering a proper amount of remorse for the mischief that must have been done by that wretched discussion on Corporal Punishment. Still, the page is now clean, and the magazine is an excellent one. How useful it must be found in a thousand homes, with its admirable, I believe unequalled, patterns for ladies and children's dresses!

The *Young Englishwoman*, a sort of sucker of the other, and sold at half the price, is also a capital magazine—so good, in fact, that if the two were before me and I were a woman, I do not know which I should take.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

It is a very long time since I have seen such a thoroughly charming play as "Two Roses," by Mr. Albery, lately produced at the VAUDEVILLE, and destined, I should think, to improve the character of this pretty theatre—to make it known as a place where good acting and good plays may be found—and certainly to make its author famous. A report has got about that this

successful comedy was in the theatre before Mr. Andrew Halliday's recent play; and it has therefore been a matter of much surprise that "Two Roses" was not produced at the opening of the theatre, instead of "Love or Money." But the rumour is not strictly true. A play by Mr. J. Albery, called "The Two Coquettes," was in the theatre and had been accepted; but it was thought afterwards that Mr. Halliday's play suited the company better; so Mr. Albery's play was postponed. Eventually Mr. Albery was asked to write another play specially for the company instead of "The Two Coquettes," and "Two Roses" is the happy result. I don't wonder at the enthusiasm the pretty little comedy has created, because, besides being very good in itself, it holds out promises of better things still for the future. There is a workmanlike power of construction, a lively appreciation of the force of situation, a pure and poetical fancy, and such a fair knowledge of epigram and repartee, that I am inclined to think Mr. Albery, having discovered his power, will push it further, and, I hope, with discrimination. One of the pleasantest features in the comedy is that it looks on the sunny side of human nature. Of course, it is impossible to write a play so thoroughly "goody-goody" that no wicked creatures appear in it; but good people happily predominate. The acting, particularly of the male characters, is excellent; indeed, except at the Prince of Wales's, such "all round" acting is not to be found in London. The character given to Mr. Henry Irving is the strongest marked; and every justice has been done to it by the actor. The Mr. Digby Grant he plays is the father of the two Roses; first of all a penniless, bragging, pretentious humbug, who makes fine speeches about his ancestry and blue blood, while he accepts daily presents from a poor commercial traveller, and bleeds the two young men who are sweet upon the girls. When fortune smiles upon him he turns round upon those who assisted him, and thinks that by paying them with cheques he can cancel the debt of gratitude. Eventually he begins to know himself; and, eaten up with gout and ruined by selfish indulgence, he declines into a testy, petulant, and ill-tempered man, an enemy to himself and a great trial to the children who still cling to him. The author's intention is thoroughly appreciated by Mr. Irving. The make-up, to begin with, is excellent. The curled whisker, and the evidently dyed and plastered hair, are quite in keeping with the character; and the acting cannot fail to strike an intelligent observer as being far superior to what we are ordinarily accustomed on the English stage. I can well see the author's sketch or outline, but it would not be fair to fail to acknowledge the filling-in of the clever artist. Mr. Montague has, of course, an ordinary Montague character; but time is adding a roundness and completeness to Mr. Montague's style, and I certainly never saw him play better or with more *verve* than in the good-hearted, genuine, and manly Jack. Mr. Thorne played a very difficult character—a young blind man—with great discrimination, and occasionally with intense feeling. The characters of these two young men are charmingly drawn, and I really don't think they could have been played better. Mr. George Honey is sincerely to be congratulated on having toned down all his extravagance, and on having for once played a comic character with great discretion. Mr. Honey is an excellent actor; but his tendency to over-act must have been noticed by more people than myself. However, there is no over-acting in Our Mr. Jenkins, the faithful commercial traveller, who marries a silver-grey lady, and, at her bidding, turns Methodist and becomes an elder. The two young ladies were played by Miss Fawcett and Miss Newton; neither of whom acts badly, but they both want delicacy of expression, refinement, and womanly softness. Miss Fawcett is unquestionably a clever—an extremely clever—lady, and her whole heart is in her work; but, with all her enthusiasm, her spirit, and her intelligence—and she possesses all these qualities—she must learn tenderness. To tell the truth, she gushes a little too much. She can coax and wheedle, she can play and toy; she must learn to love. I never saw Miss Newton to greater advantage. But oh! the dresses of these young ladies when they have come into their money and go out walking with their particular—their very particular—father on a Sunday afternoon! A dazzling mass of scarlet and black down below and a fast-looking pork-pie hat up above.

Mr. Frank A. Marshall, an admirable critic and a gentleman of great culture, promises a reading from Shakespeare and the Elizabethan dramatists at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on Friday, the 24th, and on Thursday, June 30. The first reading will consist of selections from "King Lear" and scenes from Ben Jonson's comedies, "The Fox" and "The Silent Woman." Mr. Marshall has been at great trouble to make a selection of appropriate music illustrative of the period, which will be played during the intervals.

Mr. Bellew has returned to town, after a most successful tour and a triumphant reception in Dublin. He will be reading in various halls of the metropolis during the season.

Mr. J. L. Toole soon leaves London for his grand provincial tour. Before doing so he takes his annual benefit at the Gaiety. Such a universal favourite, and one who is so generous to his brother artists, will of course be liberally patronised and ably assisted.

Mr. and Mrs. German Reed's entertainment—"Ages Ago" and "Beggars My Neighbour"—is advertised for the last performance on Saturday, June 18, when the former piece will have reached its 202nd representation. On the following Monday a novelty, from the pen of Mr. W. S. Gilbert, entitled "Our Island Home," will be produced. Mr. German Reed has composed the music.

CHINESE PIRATES.—The *North German Correspondent* says that the Government of the United States and that of Great Britain have accepted the proposal of the North German Confederation to engage in a common action against the Chinese pirates. "The fleets of the three nations," it adds, "will consequently take part in a general plan of operations, which will doubtless be more effective than their separate action has been. As the Chinese Government is chiefly interested in the matter, it will be permitted, if it pleases, to join in these endeavours to extirpate the pirates."

"LOTHAIR" BY TELEGRAPH.—A correspondent writes:—"It is reported that an American publishing firm endeavoured to make an arrangement with the Anglo-American Telegraph Company to have transmitted to them, from London, the whole of Mr. Disraeli's 'Lothair,' on the hypothesis that ten days' start of their rival publishers would compensate them for the outlay. The following figures exhibit the nature of this undertaking:—There are 982 pages in the three volumes of 'Lothair,' with an average of 160 words per page, giving a total of 157,120 words. The present rate for American messages is 30s. for ten words, and the cost of 'wiring' 'Lothair' would therefore amount to £22,568. Supposing the company were willing to work this lengthy and interesting message at half price, the cost would still amount to £11,784. This sum at one dollar per copy retail (which would probably be the American price) would necessitate the sale of nearly 80,000 copies before this primary cost of telegraphy was covered, without reckoning the cost of production."

"LOTS OF CHILDREN," AND "LOTS OF MONEY."—A breach of promise of marriage case, "Huet v. Duke," in which judgment had been allowed to go by default in the Court of Exchequer, came, on Thursday, before Mr. Under-Sheriff Borehell and a jury, at the Sheriff's Court, for assessment of damages. They were laid at £1000. The plaintiff, Annie Huet, was about twenty-six years of age, and the defendant was a young man who had been manager to Messrs. Spence, Turner, and Co., drapers, Lisson-grove. The parties had been acquainted since 1861, and the marriage was fixed for December last. On the 13th of that month the defendant wrote to the plaintiff to break off the engagement, and in three days afterwards he was married to a widow. He now lived at Ealing, where it was stated that he kept an excellent establishment. The counsel for the defendant remarked that his client had married a widow with lots of children, and the witness who was under examination added, "and lots of money." Mr. Talford, for the plaintiff, submitted that it was a case for full damages. After an engagement of nine years it was a heartless act to marry a widow with money and to live in good style. Mr. Lewis said it was happiness in some cases to break a promise of marriage. In this case there was only poverty before the parties if they had married. It was a case for very small damages. Mr. Under-Sheriff Borehell told the jury the defendant had very abruptly broken off an engagement of nine years, and must pay. Whether the widow's money or her children had attracted him he could not say. It was a case for damages, but they should not be of an amount to drive him into the Bankruptcy Court. The jury assessed the damages at £200.



## Imperial Parliament.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW MEMBER.

Lord Mahon took the oath and his seat for East Suffolk, in the room of Mr. J. Henniker-Major, called to the House of Peers.

The noble Lord was introduced by Mr. G. Hardy and Mr. C. S. Read, and was loudly cheered by the Opposition.

**THE GREEK CONSTITUTION.**

Mr. MONK asked whether there was any objection to lay upon the table of the House copies of any despatches which had been received at the Foreign Office since the year 1861 from her Majesty's representatives at the Court of Athens, and from the Courts of France and Russia, pointing out how ill suited the existing Constitution is to the Greek nation.

Mr. ORWELL was not aware of any despatches similar to those referred to having been received. Communications of that nature, being more or less confidential, had been received at the Foreign Office, and it was not intended to lay them before Parliament.

**THE SUGAR DUTY.**

On the motion for going into Committee on Customs and Inland Revenue Bill.

Mr. CHAWFORD moved as an amendment that provision should be made in the Bill for the drawback of the amount of the duty reduced:—On such duty-paid sugar as remained in any bonded warehouse on the close of Tuesday, April 12, 1879. On the stocks of manufactured sugar, other than refined sugar, or sugar equal in quality thereto (entitled to the drawback of 12s. the cwt.), being in quantity not less than 100 cwt., and in the packages unbroken, in the hands of refiners and dealers, on the close of Tuesday, April 12, 1879, in places where there are customs authorities. On the stocks of sugar under process of manufacture on the premises of refiners on the close of Tuesday, April 12, 1879, which can be identified to the satisfaction of the officers of Her Majesty's Customs. He urged that the drawback when he conceived for was fully justified by the precedents shown in the case of wine, glass, hops, and paper; but in reducing the duty upon sugar the Government had made no allowance whatever to several classes of sugar-refiners, nor had time been allowed to dispose of their stocks. Representations had been made from all parts of the country, but the Treasury had declined every overture of a reasonable nature which had been made to them. He could not see why those who had sugar in their hands on April 12, upon which they had paid high duties, should be made to sustain a heavy loss by the reduction of the duty.

Mr. RATHBONE looked upon the course adopted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer as a breach of the promise given by him that all the interests concerned should be fairly dealt with. He seconded the amendment.

Mr. Graham, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Lusk supported the amendment.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER pointed out that there was no precedent for making the concession asked for in the case of the dealers, and argued that if it were made it would be creating a precedent of an altogether kind. He would assent to the drawback asked for a duty-paid sugar in bond at the time indicated in the amendment, but would not yield to the demand of the dealers.

Mr. T. Baring, Mr. Cave, and other hon. members continued the discussion.

Mr. GLADSTONE said, though the amount of money involved in the question was small, the principle at issue was very great. There was also much injustice in what Mr. Chawford proposed—that of giving retail dealers drawback where Customs authorities existed, and denying it to dealers where these authorities did not exist. Government were willing to go as far as was just and as precedent warranted, but they must resolutely decline to accede to everything that was asked in the amendment. They could not consent to look upon the dealer and the manufacturer in the same light or to place them on the same footing.

Mr. CHAWFORD, on being pressed to withdraw his amendment, said he would do so on condition that the large retail dealers had consideration shown to them.

Mr. CHAWFORD said the precise terms of the concession would be arranged to-morrow.

The amendment was then withdrawn.

**INLAND REVENUE BILL.**

The House then went into Committee on this bill, when Colonel BRISTOL moved an amendment to clause 6, the object of which was to obviate the necessity of farmers giving notice to the Excise when they wanted to steep grain. The amendment was opposed by the Government, and on a division it was negatived by a majority of 47 to 31.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER the clauses relating to the duty charged to railways on their passenger traffic were withdrawn.

Clauses 21 and 22, relating to the income tax, were withdrawn until the bringing up of the report.

Mr. HERMAN moved the omission of clause 23, which provided for employers giving a list of the salaries of their employees to the tax-collector. After some discussion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER consented to withdraw it, and it was accordingly struck out.

Mr. G. GREGORY moved to add a clause to the bill to exempt persons from the necessity of taking out a license for farm horses kept solely for the purpose of husbandry, on account of those horses being occasionally used in drawing materials for the repair of roads and highways, whether for hire or otherwise. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the clause, as he thought it would be extending too far the privilege the agricultural community already enjoyed. The SPEAKER gave his support to the clause, and in the division which followed voted against the Government, and was much cheered when he entered from the lobby. Mr. G. Gregory's motion was carried against the Government by a majority of 49 to 45, and the result was hailed with loud cheers.

Mr. GLADSTONE stated that the extension of the exemption was a matter of very great importance, and the Government would consider it before the bill passed.

The schedules were then agreed to, and the bill passed through Committee.

**A MONUMENT TO LAMARTINE.**—The committee for the construction of a monument to Lamartine at Mâcon has decided upon erecting a statue in the Place d'Armes. It is to be 10 ft. 9 in. in height, including the plinth. The cost of the whole will be £2000, and a competition will be opened for the execution of the work. The author of the design selected will have the superintendence of the erection; the second will receive £60; and the third, £40.

**ANONYMOUS DONATIONS.**—The sum of £1000 was, a few days since, left at the bank of Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., for the British Hospital for Diseases of the Skin, 26, Great Marlborough-street, W., and 13A, Finsbury-square, E.C., from V. S. T. Mr. Edward Moore, the honorary secretary of the Alexandrian Institution for the Blind, gratefully acknowledges the receipt of £1000 from "E. G. T." paid to the Messrs. Dunsdale, Fowler, and Co., in aid of the funds of this charity.

**BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the members of this association was held at Taunton on Wednesday—St. Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., President for the year, occupying the chair. The President, who only arrived in England on Tuesday from America, received a hearty welcome. He made a short speech, in which he congratulated the society upon the success which had attended its career, and also upon the appearance of the exhibition, and glanced at the advantages of holding such meetings in different parts of the country. The right hon. Baronet said that only the previous day he made the acquaintance of a gentleman who had come over from Canada for the purpose of being stock to take out there, and that gentleman told him that one of his engagements was to visit the exhibition at Taunton. When one saw what energy the Canadian farmers had, and what they were doing in the way of developing agriculture, and especially the breed of cattle, in that country, one could not, he said, but feel pleased and flattered at the interest which their dealers were taking in such exhibitions. 12,296 persons paid for admission to the agricultural show on Wednesday. The sum thereby realised was £1482—being the highest amount taken on any one day, with the single exception of the occasion when the show was held at Bristol.

**A LIFE OF CRIME.**—The Belgian papers record the trial of an Englishman at Brussels for swindling. The prisoner, a venerable-looking old man with white hair, arrived some time since at the Hôtel de l'Europe, accompanied by a young woman who he said was his wife. He gave the name of Richard Conway Seymour, and after staying at the hotel for some time, attempted to leave the city without paying any of the bills he had incurred. The Etude Beige states that the prisoner, under the name of Horace Belmont, was condemned to hard labour for life by the Assize Court of the Seine in 1828; under the name of Augustus Deane he was sentenced at Brussels to ten years' hard labour; and in the name of Williams he had been sentenced by the Assize Court of the Pas de Calais to five years' hard labour. It appears that he was pardoned in 1848, and in 1851 or 1852 he was arrested at Calais when about to embark for England, and under the name of Cavendish he was condemned to fifteen years' hard labour. While in prison he declared that he was the rightful Duke of Devonshire, and having succeeded in corrupting one of the prison officers, made his escape, disguised as a woman. He was, however, recaptured at Havre and sent to the bagnio, where he fulfilled his sentence. In 1867 he was charged at Lambeth Police Court with having committed bigamy, and underwent a term of imprisonment. At other times he has been convicted at Calais, Boulogne, Havre, and Naples, under the various names of Seymour, Ponsonby, Duke of Devonshire, B-ninck, and other aristocratic appellations. His marriages were frequent, and it is certain that three, at least, of his assumed wives are still living. The Brussels Court, upon this last occasion, convicted the prisoner of swindling and passing by a false name, and sentenced him to twelve months' imprisonment.

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## NATIONAL WORK IN WAITING.

It will be a long time before we shall have to get through Parliament a measure that will take up so much time, or so much attention, as the Irish Land Bill. That Ireland is settled, or that Fenianism will not yet give us worse trouble than any we have as yet suffered from it, is another matter. After National Education, it is pretty certain that the next very large question that will call upon our energies will be that of the colonies. But, whether Education be disposed of this year, or whether it stand over till next Session (which would be much better than that we should put up with a cobbled bill), there are home questions which we should very much like to see agitated by legislators in want of work. And we have the less scruple in saying this that the matters we are about to refer to all lie strictly within the range of Government interference. Where this does not hold good, or where the border lines are hazy, as, for example, in the education question, there is great danger in any but first-class statesmen grappling with the topics: because we may hap to get first principles tampered with and false precedents affirmed.

When, however, the supply of a public want falls clearly within the province of Government, only expediency is in question, and no errors can arise but those of less or more. Sanitary regulation is a thing of this class. To do all that the nation will consent to their doing for the preservation of the conditions of public health, is within the province of Imperial police; and no man can affirm that it is overdone in this country, or in Scotland or Ireland. It is not in the duty or the power of a Government to make and keep people healthy; but it is in its power, acting by common consent, to see that certain universally admitted conditions of health are at the service of the citizen, and that no citizen shall by his own default make other citizens ill. Sewage, smoke, street traffic, railway traffic, the adulteration of food—all these come fairly within the circle of governmental interference, and on all of them there is plenty to be done. It is a national disgrace that the great Barking outfall job should ever have been perpetrated; that beer, spirits, wine, and bread should be adulterated as they are; that great towns should be poisoned with smoke; and that as many people should be killed and wounded in London streets in a year as in a military campaign of considerable magnitude. There are, indeed, not wanting sensible people who tell us that all our education schemes will be failures unless we precede them or very closely accompany them by sanitary measures specially applicable to the "masses" in town.

There is another matter, which is still more clearly within the sphere of police. The great and good Wilhelm von Humboldt—"la plus grande capacité de l'Europe," as Madame De Stael called him—in his immortal treatise defining the sphere and duties of government, said, among other things, that it would be time enough for governments to think of extending the base of their operations when they had attempted to fulfil their first duties. Now the first, and strictly speaking the only, office of government is, according to him, to assure personal security to the citizen. And he justly observes that we have never yet seen it so much as tried what government can do in repressing crime. Not that we have not at different times and in many places had plenty of foolishly-severe laws against different offences—that is a sort of thing we are sufficiently familiar with. But governments everywhere have not only wasted an immense amount of law power, so to speak, in matters of internal personal morality with which they have no business, we have also before us the startling fact that certainty of punishment for crime—the very first thing a government should aim at—is a ludicrous distance ahead of us. The reform of our whole system of criminal police is one of the most pressing questions of the day, and he would deserve well of his country who should present us with scientifically classified facts upon the working of the present system. It is painfully manifest that we cannot go on in this way. If we attempt it we shall have to face a moral sewage question, and that before long, too. Perhaps the hour will bring the man and we shall, before it is too late, have, not proposals of botching and mending merely, but substantive plans for reinstituting the crime-repressing machinery of civilisation upon a basis parallel to our necessities.

**THE NEW DEAN OF ROCHESTER.**—Dr. Robert Scott, Master of Balliol College, Oxford, who has been appointed Dean of Rochester, in succession to the late Dr. Dale, was educated at Christchurch, where he took his B.A. degree in 1833. He obtained both the Craven and Ireland Scholarships, and was also first class in classics. Dr. Scott has held the mastership of Balliol College since 1854. His name is well known in connection with the Greek and English Lexicon which he brought out in conjunction with Dr. Liddell.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has ordered a medal to be granted to the officers and men of the Royal Navy and Marines who were employed in the Abyssinian expedition, or who were borne in the undermentioned ships when employed in the Red Sea, between Oct. 4, 1867, and April 19, 1868, viz:—Argus, Dryad, Daphne, Nymphe, Octavia, Spiteful, Star, Satellite, Vigilant.

THE PRINCE OF WALES will be present at the opening of the new Dulwich College on the 21st inst.

VISCOUNT SYDNEY has promised to preside at the summer festival of the Home for Little Boys, on Saturday, July 9.

THE EARL OF DERBY laid the foundation-stone of a new hospital at Liverpool on Monday. The noble Earl had previously given the site for the institution, which is intended to supply the wants of a district containing 130,000 inhabitants.

THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF, as chairman of the Old-Testament company appointed by Convocation for the revision of the Authorized Version of the Scriptures, has summoned the company over, which he presides for meetings on June 30 and on July 1.

THE REV. E. S. FOULKES, who joined the communion of the Church of Rome some years ago, was received back into the Church of England on Sunday morning. The service took place at the parish church of St. Mary the Less, Lambeth.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS has decided that the name Victoria Embankment shall be applied to the northern Thames Embankment, and Albert Embankment to that on the south side of the river.

AN ORDER OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL directs that the standard weights of one third of an ounce avoirdupois and of two thirds of an ounce avoirdupois respectively shall be legal secondary standards of weight.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS was seized with paralysis on Thursday morning last and died in the evening.

TWO BOYS, aged respectively twelve and fourteen, have been fined 20s. each, at Nottingham, for throwing stones at inspectors on telegraph posts.

A FINE SHARK about 5 ft. long was captured off the entrance to Langstone Harbour, by Henry Burton, a fisherman, of Portsmouth, assisted by his two sons, early on Tuesday morning. It is exactly two years since some sharks were seen in the waters of the Solent.

A FIRE took place, early on Tuesday morning, on the siding of the Great Western Railway station at Bristol. Twelve luggage-trucks were completely destroyed and eight others burned almost beyond repair. One of the trucks contained about £1000 worth of cloth, and in all the others there was valuable property.

THOUGH LOST TO SIGHT TO MEMORY DEAR.—Secretary Bruce's cab flags.—Tomahawk.

THE MARCHIONESS OF HASTINGS was married on Thursday to Sir George Cheswynd, Bart., at St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

A VERY VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE has occurred in the city of Oajaca, in Mexico, by which, besides great destruction of property, a hundred persons were killed and a large number injured.

MRS. MACGREGOR'S PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION was completed, at Marlborough-street Police Court, on Tuesday. The defendant, who is charged with frauds on a number of London tradesmen, was committed for trial, bail to the united amount of £9000 having been required.

CHEERING REPORTS are given of the prospects of the shooting season in Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire. The disease amongst the grouse has almost entirely disappeared, and, owing to the lenty shown to the birds for the last two years, the moors have become re-stocked.

A TERRIBLE STORM passed upwards over the Mississippi on the 24th ult. It was accompanied with hail, rain, thunder, and lightning. Houses were blown down, trees were uprooted, cattle and hogs killed. Many people were killed by lightning.

THE ANNUAL HORSE SHOW at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, was held this week, and was very successful as an exhibition, but did not attract so many visitors as usual.

A CONFERENCE on the best mode of dealing with the homeless poor was held, on Wednesday, at the chambers of the Charitable Relief Society, Burleigh-street, Strand. Lord Lichfield presided; and, in addition to the noble Earl, Sir C. Trevelyan, Mr. J. Gurney Hoare, and Mr. Arthur Mills were amongst the speakers.

THE LIVERPOOL COUNTY MAGISTRATES have imposed a penalty of £1 10s. 2d., or an alternative of imprisonment, upon an Irish lady named Catherine O'Connor, for slapping a child who had plucked some flowers from her garden in the suburb of Waterloo.

A FATAL CASE OF GAROTTING is reported from Greenwich, the victim having been a naval pensioner, seventy-two years of age. The assailant of the deceased is not in custody.

THE ETON COLLEGE ELECTION is fixed for Monday, July 25, and candidates must present themselves for examination on Thursday, July 21, at seven o'clock in the morning. The necessary certificates should be sent to the Lower Master at Eton without delay.

A STATE BREAKFAST on an unusually grand scale will be given at Windsor by the Queen immediately on her Majesty's return from Scotland. Marqueses and tents are already being erected on the lawn in front of the east terrace. About 1000 persons will be invited.

"SILVER MINES" recently discovered in Llanthowynshir are not altogether the hoax they were at first pronounced. On Monday, contiguous to the old workings, a rich vein of silver and lead, from 15 in. to 20 in. thick, was unexpectedly laid bare, and the ore is said to be of good quality.

A CHURCH IN CLINTON AVENUE, NEW YORK, is being built on the plan of a theatre: it is to have a pit, pit stalls, boxes, private boxes, and a gallery. The stage boxes hold twelve chairs, with tables in the centre for books and hats, so that the select worshippers can perform their devotions apart from the common throng.

THE BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY opened its annual exhibition at Taunton on Monday. The interest felt in the success of this organisation is general in the southern counties, and every preparation has been made by the county town of Somerset heartily to welcome the society. The space inclosed for the show-yard is twenty-five acres in extent.

THE RECTORY OF EDGWARE is to be sold by auction on July 2, in consequence of a decision of the Master of the Rolls. It is described as having an excellent rectory-house, gardens, pleasure-grounds, and park-like paddock. The net annual income is about £485, irrespective of the value of the land and rectory-house, which is a very commodious one, and "fit for the reception of a gentleman's establishment." The present incumbent is in his sixty-third year.

THE PARIS JOURNAL, *Figaro*, commenting upon the great "execution" of the unfortunate Derby betters who backed Macgregor, tells its readers that there was something wonderfully appropriate in the name of the winner, "because Kingcraft in English means Jack Ketch!" The *Figaro* mistakes "Kingcraft" for "Calcraft!"

THE ANNUAL WHIT MONDAY PROCESSION of the Church of England schools took place in Manchester on Monday. The weather was brilliant, and there was a very large influx of visitors in the city. The children assembled in St. Ann's-square to the number of 15,242—a larger gathering, the *Manchester Guardian* believes, than has ever taken place at the Whitsun anniversary. The children proceeded along the usual route to the cathedral, where a sermon was preached by the Bishop of Manchester.

JOHN WILSON AND MICHAEL DAVITT were again brought up at the Marylebone Police Court, on Tuesday, on a charge of treason-felony. The former, it will be remembered, was captured at Paddington, on the arrival of a Great Western train from Birmingham, with a number of six-chambered revolvers in his possession; while Davitt was loitering in a suspicious manner on the platform. Both prisoners were again remanded.

AN ACCIDENT TO AN EXCURSION TRAIN took place, on Tuesday morning, three miles from Blackburn, in Lancashire. The axle of one of the carriages snapped, and the result was that three other carriages were smashed to pieces and two others tumbled down a low embankment into a meadow. Nearly twenty passengers sustained injuries more or less severe; but it is hoped that no loss of life will ensue.

THE NATIONAL DEBT at the close of the last year was £748,276,183, and since then the sum of £7,000,000 has been converted into temporary annuity. The debt is now less than it has ever been since 1813. It is no less than £120,000,000 below the amount it stood at in 1813, and £70,000,000 below the return of 1857, at the close of the Crimean War and Indian mutiny. The interest of this debt is £36,840,000 a year, but £4,500,000 is temporary only, and will expire in 1885. The permanent charge is less than it has ever been since 1812.

AT ST. VEEP PARISH CHURCH, Cornwall, on Sunday, the Rev. George Hext was reading the epistle when an alarm was given that an adjacent farm was burning. The Rector promptly stopped the service, and, heading the congregation, they repaired en masse to the scene of the disaster, where the active efforts of the parson and the people extinguished the fire. They then returned to church, resumed the service, and, in place of the previously-prepared sermon, an appropriate extemporaneous address was given to "improve the occasion."

A SERIOUS ACCIDENT occurred on Tuesday night at the Alhambra. In a scene in the ballet of "Les Fleurs du Jardin," in which the majority of the corps de ballet make their appearance on an elevated platform or "trap," the audience were horrified by seeing them suddenly precipitated to the lower stage, and by bearing, above the strains of the orchestra, the crashing of timber and the screams of wounded women. The curtains were immediately lowered, and the performances suspended. Eleven of the ballet girls were injured, three or four of them seriously, but all are said to be progressing favourably. The cause of the accident has not yet been ascertained.



### NEW BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE.

The site of the New Mission House in Castle-street, Holborn, is, unfortunately, most unfavourable for proper development of the architectural merits of the building. The situation, however, is convenient, being easy of access, and within five minutes' walk of several leading thoroughfares. The building is all that could be desired, and never has the denomination possessed so commodious a home. All the societies can be accommodated under its roof, and the large hall contains space sufficient for three hundred people. If the house could have been placed upon a hill, its architectural excellences would be acknowledged by all. The most artistic skill has been displayed in the very elaborate and beautiful stone carvings of the principal entrance, and in the capitals of the columns and keystones and bosses of the windows; and the greatest credit is due to Messrs. G. C. Searle and Son, the architects, for the manner in which the whole work has been carried out, to the satisfaction of all parties.

The building was opened on Thursday, April 21.

### PRESENTATION OF THE ORDER OF ST. STEPHEN TO THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.

The Emperor of Austria, who was a distinguished guest of the Khedive at the inauguration of the Suez Canal, has notified his gratification at the right Royal welcome with which he was entertained. The order of St. Stephen of Hungary, the most important decoration which he can bestow, has been sent to the Viceroy, mounted in diamonds, and the ceremony of the investiture of his Highness with the jewel has been made an occasion of great pomp and splendour at Cairo. From early morning salvos of artillery from the citadel announced to the people that something important was about to happen; while the troops, preceded by their bands, set out for the Palace of Gesireh, on the Nile (an Engraving of which has appeared in our columns), where the ceremony was to take place. Three carriages, with postilions in scarlet and gold, and escorts of lancers, were occupied by the Austrian Consul-General, Herr Schreiner, and his suite to convey them to the palace, where a large number of state carriages had already arrived, at nine o'clock in the morning, at which hour the Embassy entered the magnificent gardens between a double file of infantry.

At the foot of the grand staircase the aides-de-camp and equerries of the Viceroy received the Consul, who, attended by

the Chief Usher of the Viceregal Court, Zeki Bey, ascended to the great reception-saloon, where the Khedive awaited him, surrounded by his officers and Ministers of State. On the approach of the Consul his Highness rose and approached him, and Herr Schreiner then presented to him the case containing the jewel and an autograph letter from the Emperor, the former of which the Viceroy at once fastened to his breast. After the interchange of thanks and compliments suitable to the occasion, a long file of negro attendants entered carrying chibouks, and placed before each of the com-

previously used) as durable as marble itself. Each picture is bedded in a deep-toned marble framework, inlaid with floral designs and enriched by small reliefs in white, and by medallions in red marble of the obverse and reverse of the coins of the year in which the event depicted happened. For instance, beneath "The Agony in the Garden" the obverse and reverse of the coin of Tiberius occur. Derbyshire spars employed occasionally in this portion of the work impart an unlooked-for brilliancy to the whole. White marble medallions of the children of the Queen and Prince, executed by Miss Durant, are

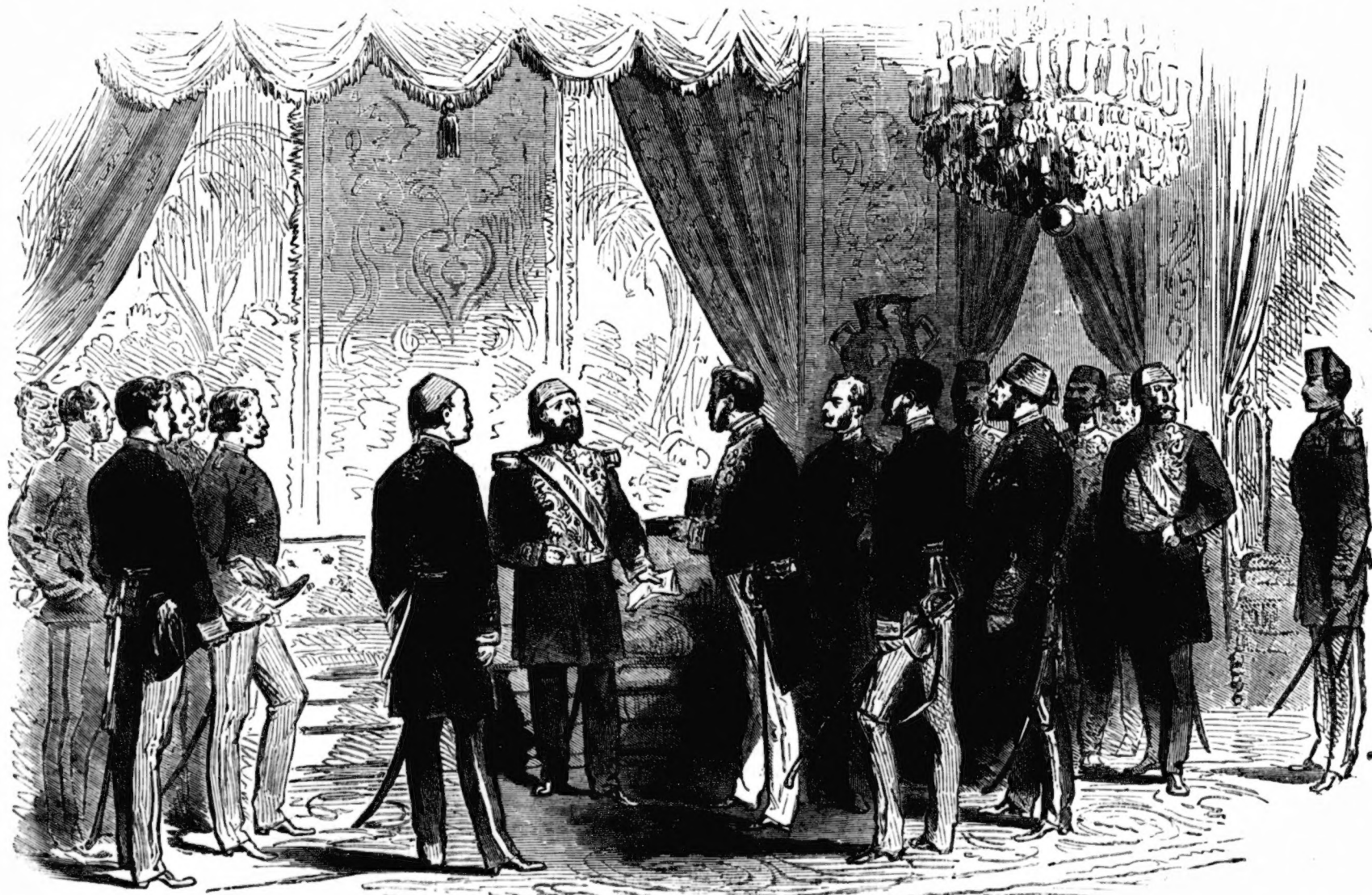
pany a small copper tray containing the pipe-bowls and apparatus. The consuls, vice-consuls, and attachés, forming a numerous suite, placed themselves on the right of the Viceroy, and the Ministers of State on the left, the Consul-General alone occupying the post of honour on the same divan. Coffee was then brought in on a tray covered with a cloth of garnet-coloured velvet, embroidered and jewelled with precious stones. After having partaken of this refreshment, the Consul took his leave and returned, amid the booming of cannon and the harmony of the Egyptian band playing Handel's celebrated Austrian Hymn. There can be no doubt that the Viceroy attaches great importance to the honour conferred on him by the Emperor of Austria, inasmuch as it is a fresh proof of the estimation in which he is held by the representatives of the great European Powers.

### THE WOLSEY CHAPEL AT WINDSOR.

The works undertaken by the Baron de Triqueti, at the command of the Queen, in the Wolsey Chapel at Windsor, are now far advanced. The walls, right and left, are filled with marble; and only the east end, where the Baron intends to concentrate all the force of colour at his disposal, is vacant. At a sufficient distance from the ground, to admit of seats being fixed beneath them, range, panelled on each side, a series of Scriptural subjects selected by the artist as illustrative of the acts and virtues of the late Prince Consort. In reference, for instance, to the interest taken by the Prince in the matter of popular education, we have Jehoshaphat directing the teaching of the people by the princes, priests, and Levites. These pictures are executed in inlaid marbles and lithographic stone, which affords a very valuable tone for decorative purposes. The cartoons for them, on completion, are transferred to the marbles, which are then deeply etched, and the lines filled in with a composition (unlike the mastic



THE NEW BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE, CASTLE-STREET, HOLBORN.



PRESENTATION OF THE ORDER OF ST. STEPHEN TO THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.





FLOATING H.M.S. SULTAN OUT OF DOCK.—(SEE THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES, JUNE 4, PAGE 355.)

introduced above each picture; and separating each, but imbedded in the same decorative frame, come reliefs of the various virtues. The artist who undertakes memorial work, even under the most favorable circumstances, generally runs hazardous risks. M. de Triqueti has fulfilled his difficult task with equal fidelity and taste. The subjects treated are of general interest, though susceptible of special application by those deeply concerned. The compositions which make the least pretension to pictorial effect have been the most efficiently rendered in the sober scale of tints adopted by the materials employed. In such materials a blizz of colour is impossible; but a vast variety of delicate and subtle harmonies lie within reach especially adapted for rendering serious monumental design. Though at present lamentably disturbed by the garish paint and gilding of the ceiling and the equally garish glass of the windows, the general effect of the marbles promises to be rich and harmonious. The execution by one man of a scheme demanding such varied attainments must necessarily leave something to be desired, however versatile his powers. The drawing can hardly be characterized as thorough, and has probably suffered much in the process of transferring the cartoons to marble. But, whatever may be lacking, the work of the Baron de Triqueti is conceived in the spirit of a genuine artist, without reference to profit or applause. What has been done at Windsor has

been achieved by legitimate methods; and the completion of this memorial work will be the inauguration of a new and valuable idea in the world of decorative art.—*Berford*.

#### NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

The Commissioners of National Education in Ireland have to report that in the year 1869 the number of national schools in operation increased to 6,707. The number of children on the rolls within the year was 591,355, an increase of 23,772 over 1868; and the average daily attendance of children for the year was 335,560, an increase of 3,707. Of the pupils on the rolls 80.98 per cent were Roman Catholics, 10.98 per cent Presbyterians, 7.36 per cent belonged to the Established Church, and 0.68 per cent to other denominations; 68.6 per cent of the schools had a mixed attendance of Protestant and Roman Catholic pupils, 121,376 Protestant pupils were mixed with 29,768 Roman Catholic pupils, 113,333 schools taught exclusively by Protestant teachers; 25,078 Protestant pupils were mixed with 361,879 Roman Catholic pupils; 26,010 schools taught exclusively by Roman Catholic teachers; and 14,232 Protestant pupils were mixed with 12,970 Roman Catholic pupils. The taught conjointly by Protestant and Roman Catholic teachers. The

unmixed schools, 41.4 per cent of the whole number, show a greater increase in 1869 than the mixed schools. The mixed schools from which returns have been received had 655,323 pupils on the rolls—viz., 160,706 Protestants and 494,617 Roman Catholics. The unmixed schools had 425,963 pupils; 27,795 were Protestant pupils in schools under Protestant teachers, and 398,168 were Roman Catholic pupils in schools under Roman Catholic teachers. In various parts of the kingdom the education of the minority can only be provided for in mixed schools with the protection of a rule to prevent tampering with the faith of the children, the numbers being so few that a separate school could not be kept up for them; but under that protection parents are able to select the most convenient school, or that which has the best master. The returns relating to literary proficiency of 732,102 pupils show 41.4 per cent of them in the first book, 34.3 per cent in the second, 17 per cent in the third, 7.3 per cent in the fourth and higher books. The examination by the inspectors showed 71.8 per cent of 314,192 pupils examined in reading to be equal to the requirements of the school programme, and 58.9 per cent of 178,792 examined in writing; of 203,127 examined in arithmetic 36.8 per cent of those examined in notation were found equal to the programme, 36.7 per cent of those examined in subtraction, 24.1 per cent in division of money, and 12.2 per cent in pro-

portion or practice. So, also, were 35.8 per cent of 185,406 examined in grammar proved equal to the requirements; 48.2 per cent of 205,895 examined in geography, 48.7 per cent of the girls examined in sewing, 31.8 per cent in knitting, 7.4 per cent in cutting out. Vocal music is taught in 697 schools, drawing in 274. In 1868 the inspectors found the advanced pupils instructed in one or more extra branches—viz., geometry, mensuration, algebra, or book-keeping; 73,148 pupils, or 22.78 per cent of the entire number, were under seven years of age; 113,986, or 35.62 per cent, were ten, but under thirteen years; 95,626, or 29.78 per cent, were thirteen years of age and above. The model schools had on their rolls, in 1869, 17,607 pupils, and the average daily attendance was 8136. There were 135 school-farms in connection with the schools. The board trained in the year 299 teachers, of whom 149 were Roman Catholics; 891 new teachers entered the service of the board in 1869. Owing to the operation of the model system in ordinary schools, and the pupil teachers in model schools, more than half the new teachers had received some preparation of a technical character for their office. At the end of the year the board had in their service 6563 principal teachers, 2311 assistants, 377 junior literary and industrial assistants, making together 8950. The



number of paid monitors was 3944. There were also 386 workmistresses and teachers of the higher industrial branches. The total amount received by the teaching staff of the schools in connection with the board for the year 1869 appears to have been £328,009 18s. 2d.—only 18 0 per cent of it locally provided, while the large proportion of 82 0 per cent was derived from the funds provided by the State. The board received in all nearly £100,000 from the public purse.

#### PROFESSOR GOLDWIN SMITH AND MR. DISRAELI.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH has made public the following letter, recently addressed by him to Mr. Disraeli as the author of "Lothair":—

Cornell University, Ithaca, State of New York, May 25, 1876.

SIR,—In your "Lothair" you introduce an Oxford Professor who is about to emigrate to America, and you describe him as "a social parasite." You well know that if you had ventured openly to accuse me of any such baseless charge you would have had to answer for your words. But when, sheltering yourself under the literary forms of a work of fiction, you seek to traduce with impunity the social character of a political opponent, your aspersions can touch no man's honour—they are the stingless insults of a coward. Your obedient servant,  
GOLDWIN SMITH.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P.

The following are the passages in Mr. Disraeli's novel of "Lothair" which are supposed to refer to Mr. Goldwin Smith, and which brought forth the Professor's letter:—

The Oxford Professor, who was the guest of the American Colonel, was quite a young man, of advanced opinions on all subjects, religious, social, and political. He was clever, extremely well informed—so far as books can make a man knowing—but unable to profit even by his limited experience of life from a restless vanity and overflowing conceit, which prevented him from ever observing or thinking of anything but himself. He was gifted with a great command of words, which took the form of endless expostion, varied by sarcasm and passages of ornate jargon. He was the last person one would have expected to recognise in an Oxford Professor; but we live in times of transition.

A Parisian man of science, who had passed his life in alternately fighting at barricades and discovering planets, had given Colonel Camplan, who had lived much in the French capital, a letter of introduction to the Professor, whose invectives against the principles of English society were hailed by foreigners as representative of the sentiments of venerable Oxford. The Professor, who was not satisfied with his home career, and, like many men of his order of mind, had dreams of wild vanity which the New World, they think, can alone realise, was very glad to make the Colonel's acquaintance, which might facilitate his future movements. So he had lionised the distinguished visitors during the last few days over the University, and had availed himself of plentiful opportunities for exhibiting to them his celebrated powers of expostion, his talent for sarcasm, which he deemed peerless, and several highly-finished picturesque passages, which he introduced with extemporary art.

The Professor was very much surprised when he saw Lothair enter the saloon at the hotel. He was the last person in Oxford whom he expected to encounter. Like sedentary men of extreme opinions, he was a social parasite, and, instead of familiarly in his usual invectives against Peers and Princes, finding himself unexpectedly about to dine with one of that class, he was content only to dazzle and amuse him.

The talk was of Oxford, and was at first chiefly maintained by the Colonel and the Professor.

"I am not a destructive," said the Professor, addressing the Colonel; but, speaking loudly, "I would maintain Oxford, under any circumstances, with the necessary changes."

"And what are those, might I ask?" inquired Lothair.

"In reality, not much. I would get rid of the religion."

"Get rid of the religion!" said Lothair.

"You have got rid of it once," said the Professor.

"You have altered—you have what people call reformed it," said Lothair; "but you have not abolished or banished it from the University."

"The shock would not be greater, nor so great, as the change from the Papal to the Reformed Faith. Besides, Universities have nothing to do with religion."

After that the Professor proved to him (Colonel Camplan) that he was related to Edmund Campion, the Jesuit; and then he got to the Gunpowder Plot, which, he was not sure, if successful, might not have beneficially influenced the course of our history. Probably the Irish difficulty would not then have existed. Action is natural to man. And what, after all, are conspiracies and revolutions but great principles in violent action?

THE WHITSUNTIME HOLIDAYS.—Fine weather has again favoured those of the holiday-keepers who look forward to Whit-Monday as a time of recreation and amusement. Large numbers crowded out of London on Monday, and by rail, road, and river were conveyed to a host of destinations, where enjoyments of a varied character awaited them. At the same time many corps of volunteers availed themselves of the opportunity to practise a few hours' drill. At Moor Park, Rickmansworth, the seat of Lord Elbury, and at Pan Hanger Park, the residence of Earl Cowper, several volunteer regiments took part in a field-day and sham fight. The programme offered by the directors of the Crystal Palace attracted more than 31,000 persons to that popular place of resort. The visitors to the Zoological Gardens were about 28,000 in number.

THE IRISH LORD CHANCELLOR.—Mr. O'Hagan, the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, who is shortly to be raised to the Peerage of the United Kingdom, is the first Roman Catholic who has filled the office of Chancellor in the sister kingdom. The grant of a peerage, which invariably accompanies the appointment to the woolsack in England is an unusual occurrence as regards the Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Lord Monck obtained the honour in 1827, but both the present Lord St. Leonards and the late Lord Campbell were called to the Upper House for reasons apart from the fact that they had respectively held the Irish Chancellorship. Sir Joseph Napier and Sir Maziere Brady, who formerly discharged the duties of the post, each received a baronetcy on his retirement. The present holder of that distinguished office was introduced both to political and official life in the second Administration of Lord Palmerston, and was raised to the Bench in the Irish Court of Common Pleas, on the death of Mr. Justice Ball, in January, 1865. He was promoted to the Lord Chancellorship of Ireland in December, 1868, when Mr. Gladstone formed his Administration. Attached to the office is a salary of £28,000 a year, and the retiring pension is £4000.

SUMMER GARDEN SOCIETY.—The inauguration of the pleasure-grounds of this society, situated within a quarter of a mile of the Willesden Junction station on the North London Railway, was celebrated on Sunday, when a large company assembled, principally composed of the higher class of artists and their families, for whose recreation the grounds were mainly intended. These gardens have been established by a body of working men under the title of the Summer Garden Society, and will be conducted on a principle as popular on the Continent, under the management of Mr. Henry Bolleter. The admission is by season ticket only, at the price of 1s. and admitting until September next, the children of members under twelve years of age being admitted free with their parents, it being the object of the society that the gardens should become a summer resort for families. The season tickets are for the present obtainable of the manager of the gardens. The scheme has received the sanction of Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., Mr. E. Beales, the Rev. Henry Solly, and other gentlemen who take an interest in working class questions. On weekdays, among the other amusements provided are cricket, bowls, quoits, athletic sports, and dancing on a large platform, with special amusements for children. On Sundays the gardens will be opened in the afternoon for promenade, with an excellent instrumental band, which will play from four until eight in the evening. No persons but those holding season tickets will be admitted into the grounds. The manager, Mr. Henry Bolleter, has had considerable experience in the conducting of Continental gardens, and, judging from the proceedings on Sunday, seems fully equal to the occasion. The gardens were opened at two o'clock in the afternoon, and the North London Metropolitan, and other lines brought down a large number of working men and their families, who have become holders of season tickets. At four o'clock the band of the 1st London Artillery commenced playing, and performed a choice selection of sacred and secular music. At five o'clock the Rev. Henry Solly delivered the inaugural address to a large and attentive audience. He said the Almighty never intended that the seventh day should be one of gloom and sadness; and much Sabbath desecration was caused by the endeavour to enforce what were called Sabbatarian principles. He could see no harm in a man, when he had taken his religious rest on the Sabbath morning, and worshipped his Maker in the manner his conscience taught him was right, walking out into the country, to inhale the pure fresh air, and by this rest recruiting his energies for the work of the ensuing week. He believed the gardens in which they were then assembled would supply a great public want in this country by enabling working men and others to enjoy on the Sunday the fresh air of the country, with the enlivening addition of music and such innocent amusement as did not run counter to the religious feeling of the country. Mr. Solly concluded his address by apologising for the absence of Mr. Hughes, M.P., who had intended to be present. Mr. Bolleter also addressed the company in explanation of the way in which he intended to conduct the gardens. The remainder of the evening was passed in promenading the gardens and listening to the music.

#### MR. FORSTER, M.P., ON THE EDUCATION BILL.

MR. W. E. FORSTER, M.P., Vice-President of the Council on Education, had an interview, last Saturday, at the offices of the Bradford Liberal Electoral Association, with a deputation from two public meetings, recently held in St. George's Hall and the Mechanics' Institution, on the question of education—a deputation representing the views of the National Education League.

The secretary, having read a memorial adopted at the meeting held in the Mechanics' Institution, and various speakers having spoken on the points adverted to in it,

Mr. Forster said: If I wish to meet my constituents at any time, I should especially wish to meet them when there is supposed to be, and perhaps is, a difference upon so important a question. At the same time, I must remind you, and I dare say you are aware of it, that in meeting you at this moment I am under a difficulty, for which you will make allowance. I can to some extent explain misconceptions of the bill, and listen attentively to your objections; but it is almost impossible for me to enter into arguments against these objections, because, when so doing, with a critical press watching an important measure and a man who happens to have the charge of it before the country, it is almost impossible for me to enter upon those arguments without giving some idea as to the future action of the Government, which I should not be at liberty to do, and which, in fact, it would be very wrong for me to do. However, I think I should like to say a word or two as regards two or three of the questions that have been started. First, the Rev. Mr. Pilchard made a remark with regard to the delay which he thought existed in the bill; and there, I think, there was some misconception. He gave two reasons against the bill. The second I will not enter into now—that is what is called the year of grace. I think I must leave that for what I shall have to say when the question comes before the Committee of the House of Commons. But, in regard to the first objection, if Mr. Pilchard reads the bill attentively, he will see he has misunderstood it. He has stated that he thought there would not be immediate action on the part of the bill. But there will be immediate action, and I am sure I look forward almost with fear and trembling to the extent of that action which will be required from the department with which I have to do; because the first thing is to ascertain exactly the deficiency of education throughout the country, in order that measures may be immediately taken for the purpose of supplying that deficiency, and not only will it be immediate action, but immediate action of the most stringent and of the most onerous character. Then Mr. Whitehead spoke with regard to the mode of electing the boards. In that he was aware that a good deal of the objection had been met by the amendment put on the table of the House. In the debate on the second reading, the objection made to the persons elected and to the mode of election was almost entirely with reference to the rural districts, and, having been misled by what occurred in my own neighbourhood, I discovered that I had given a plurality of votes where I never intended to do so. The amendment prevents that, and it establishes the ballot. It therefore meets Mr. Whitehead's objection so far as the rural districts are concerned, where I think the objection was most felt. But there I think Mr. Whitehead had not carefully read the bill, because his argument against the mode of election was mainly on account of the additional labour which it would give a town council which has already got as much in hand as it can do. We do not contemplate the town council itself being the school board; all its labour would be to elect the school board, which I suppose would be done at one sitting, and the reason why we have taken the town council as the electing body is that, on the whole, it seemed to us—but that is not a matter of vital importance—that the town council of a borough, chosen as it is by household suffrage, would make the best body for electing the school board. We have not limited their power of election; town councils are not boards to elect their own members—they may elect those they consider best fitted for the school board. It is, as I say, a question that is eminently open to argument in committee, but hitherto I must confess that I have not heard any argument which does not leave me with the conviction that in taking hold of the town council as the body fitted to elect the school board, we are taking hold of the best body. Mr. Whitehead seems to me to be in the position that I find members of the House of Commons, especially those who try to do their duty, finding some little fault with the assembly to which they belong—as, for instance, that they might be a great deal better, and that they might do their work a good deal better. Perhaps it is because I am not a member of the town council, but at all events I have very great confidence in town councils; and I believe that, though there may be very considerable wrangling in selecting them, yet they all rise to the duties which they have to perform, and if the additional duty is put upon them—the responsible duty—of electing the best school board they can, that they will be found to perform it very efficiently. In fact, I should look forward with very little hope to the future of the country if I had not very great faith in the virtue of municipal government. It might be said that it would be better and more rational to have a board specially elected for the purpose than to have the duty entrusted to men with charge of police and sanitary matters. But you must remember that the town councils will not be elected merely to look after matters at present under their charge; they will be elected with the knowledge that they will elect the school board, and, consequently, the argument would disappear, year after year, with every election. As I say, however, it is a question open to a great deal of argument on both sides; but my impression is that you would be likely to get a better body of efficient persons with educational knowledge to carry out an educational proposal by intrusting the election of these men to a town council than if they were elected directly by the ratepayers. The next question was brought forward by Mr. Colefax, who complained of what are called the compulsory powers of the bill. Now, the last speaker before the closing remarks of the chairman, Mr. Sharp, made one or two observations with regard to my personal position to which I shall allude probably afterwards; but I merely mention it now to state that this matter of compulsion is the only matter upon which anybody has a right to say that I have changed my opinion. Anybody who has studied my previous speeches with regard to education, either here or elsewhere, and fairly judges them by the bill which I have now brought forward, will find in that bill I have carried out every principle that I have previously advocated—with this exception, that I have changed my views with regard to compulsion; yet upon this point I confess I am now convinced that we must rely for the future very much on the principle of direct compulsion. But, although I have changed in this matter, although you are of the same opinion, I do not believe that it is yet the opinion of the majority of the country by any means; and I think it is doubtful whether the proposal will meet with the acceptance of the House, or the general acceptance of the country when carried; but I am convinced that this is eminently a matter in which those who advocate compulsion must take care not to go before the feeling of the country.

If Mr. Colefax were to get his way and say you must have a bill at once which will establish compulsion all over England, you will have such an opposition to that attempt as would probably make it impossible to work it. Consequently what has actuated the Government in bringing forward the measure as it stands was this—that believing that the principle had a great deal of truth and force in it we do enable districts to carry it out in the belief that those districts which carry it out would do this so well that the principle would obtain much greater favour before the public, and it would be possible, after having tried this experiment, to apply it to the whole country; whereas, if we were wrong in the matter, we could acknowledge our mistake, and try to do without direct compulsion. I have very little doubt, if the bill passes as it stands, Manchester would put the compulsory principle in force, and I believe that if Manchester would take it in hand, it would work so well as to tempt other places to follow the example, and also give the Government power, by the support of

public opinion, to apply it over the whole country. But that, again, is a question on which we should be very glad to see the day of the House when we go into Committee. I am not, in the slightest degree saying anything disrespectful of the advocates of direct compulsion when I say that no Government can at once pass such a measure simply because of the difficulties we should have to deal with would not be difficulties raised by those who are in support of the principle of direct compulsion, but difficulties put in our way by those who do not support it. When I find at meetings of the best of the working men resolutions passed in favour of direct compulsion, I know they are not the people from whom I should have any difficulty, because they probably send their children to school at once without any compulsion. It is from those who do not attend these meetings, those who do not care about giving their children the blessings of education, that I have to look for objections. The next question, that of free schools—was brought forward by Mr. Alderman Cook, who gave a very ingenious apposite illustration of the case of the rich man and the poor man. I don't think that the rich parent's child would be able to despise the poor man or the poor child, because the latter had his pence paid for him. You must remember that in all these schools only one third of the entire cost is paid for even by the rich parent; so that there would be a great absurdity in the child of the rich man throwing it in the teeth of the poor child that the State provided the whole of his education, when, at the same time, he himself would be receiving two-thirds of it from the same source. The question is not one between free education and the parent paying the whole cost. It is rather this question, Whether it is or is not desirable that the parent should be expected to bear none or the cost? My chief argument in favour of the Government proposal is that the parents generally throughout the country are able to bear part of the cost, and that I think it would be a very bad thing if the Government of the country were to relieve parents of all direct pecuniary responsibility in the education of their children. Besides, if the parents did not contribute at all to the cost of their children's education, the additional charge upon the Exchequer would be enormous. My friend Mr. King stated a case. I will not take it as his own, but as that of any working man. He says that, after paying the rate, it would be a very unreasonable thing for him to be obliged to pay the pence for his own children. I say that is not an unreasonable thing at all. I venture to say that what he would pay in the way of rates would be nothing to the value he receives. Take the case of a man who occupies a house of £10 a year rent and who has three children ready for school. He pays a rate of three-pence in the pound—the maximum rate contemplated under the bill—which would amount to 2s. 6d. a year. I say that man has no right to come forward and say, "I perform my duty to my children for 2s. 6d. a year." I say that above that, if he is able, he ought to pay twopence a week for his three children. There may be cases when the parents are unable to pay the pence, and then our bill provides that they shall be assisted. It is not their fault that they cannot do it, and I am quite sure the public opinion of the country will not consider them paupers because they are so assisted. And now I come to what must be considered as a most important matter—I mean the religious question. But on this question I really cannot do more than just explain the principles upon which the bill was brought forward. The first of these principles was that the State—meaning by the State the Imperial Government—should not in any way interfere in religious education. That is carried out in this bill, as it was in those bills that Mr. Bruce and I brought forward in 1867 and 1868; and, if anything, it is more carried out in this bill, because here we have at once done what we only contemplated carrying out in the previous bills—we have abolished the religious inspection of Church schools, and consequently no money of the State can be paid for finding out whether any religious teaching be given or not. But, whilst we think it right to carry out this principle, we would not prevent any parents who wished it from having religious teaching given to their children by the same schoolmaster and in the same school as the other teaching is given. These are the two principles which have been carried out in the bill; and when the time comes I shall be prepared to vindicate, either before you or before the House of Commons, my belief that, in carrying them out, we have in no way transgressed the principle of religious equality. I am aware it is stated that the whole principle of concurrent endowment is involved; but I do not believe that you can in any way put upon the same footing the question of worship such as was involved in the Irish Church measure of last year and this question—which merely comes to this, that we do not prevent parents, if they wish it, from having religious teaching given by the same man who gives the other teaching, and in the same school. Remember this, that although you may say you dislike religious teaching, there are very many parents who may like it; and if we were to say by Act of Parliament that they should not be allowed to do this, they would feel that there was a great injustice forced upon them. I merely say this in explanation of my views in bringing forward this measure. The objections stated to it here and in the country with regard to the difficulty of leaving this matter to school boards deserve the best attention, and the Government are prepared most closely to consider them in Committee. And Committee is really the right place for their consideration; for this reason, that the question is not one of abstract resolution, but how to do a particular thing; and those who have advocated one mode of doing it are in a very unfair position if those objecting to their mode are not at the same time compelled to bring forward their proposal on the subject. We say, then, that it is pre-eminently a thing which ought to be left for discussion in Committee. I must make one other remark before I leave this part of the subject. I exceedingly rejoice at one result of the meeting held in St. George's Hall, because I find that the resolution which was there proposed by Mr. Hingworth, M.P., seconded by the Rev. Mr. Mursell, and passed by a majority—and I should imagine that in the point to which I am going to refer it was unanimously agreed to—was one which acknowledges to some extent the principle which the Government has embodied in the bill. Because in using these words—that reading and instruction from the Bible shall not be prohibited—this much at least is acknowledged, that the parent should not be prevented from having for his children Bible teaching by the same man and in the same school as the other teaching. I was very glad to find that that was agreed to by the meeting, because it certainly seemed to indicate this—that by it one object of the Government was acknowledged, and it acknowledged that which I may be allowed to state I believe to be in accordance with the feeling of the enormous majority of the people throughout the country. I believe that in passing that resolution you merely came to the conclusion that is becoming more and more the conclusion of all those who have studied the question, that it would—as I ventured to state in bringing the bill forward—be a monstrous thing, if, in a Christian country, the Bible, and not merely Bible reading, but Bible teaching, was excluded from the day schools. I am very glad, I say, that on this point—however you may differ from me in other matters—there seems to be an agreement between us. The chairman alluded to the question of the amendments, and expressed some disappointment that other questions than those on which they touch were not introduced in them. In putting the amendments on the notice paper the Government has done precisely what is done with regard to questions brought before the House, and especially questions of importance. We brought a bill forward. We took it to the second reading. At the second reading objections were started. The Government came to the conclusion that in one or two respects it would endeavour to meet those objections. Mr. Gladstone said we should do so, and consequently we put the amendments on the notice paper. It is not unusual—in fact it is most unusual—to do anything else between the different stages of any Government measure;



## Literature.

*London Lyrics.* By FREDERICK LOCKER. London: A. Strahan and Co.

What are *vers de société*? The answer is not so difficult as some people have tried to make it. Society verses are verses on topics fit for ordinary conversation, and composed with the neatness which becomes the drawing-room or the club. Pathos is excluded—at least strong pathos is. By the same rule, high humour is out of place. Still more alien is every form of strenuous thought or imagination. Short "swallow flights," both of humour and tenderness, are, however, admissible. The great point is to take care that what you write shall be *literature*, not mere squib—that is to say, that it shall be in character as permanent as the essay, and not as transient as the pamphlet; and yet, with all this, that it shall not soar above the level of cultivated gossip, or of that kind of meditation which, in the solitary hours of the man or woman of society, takes the place of gossip. With all this must be combined unerring neatness of execution. Broad humour, which admits of conscious, deliberate slovenliness, and, indeed, some times insists upon it, is excluded. Society verse may go in loose morning attire, in shooting-jacket, or even in dressing-gown, but it must never assume the picaresque of the clown, the motley of the harlequin, or the sheer cap and bells of the fool. In a word, society verse must never be earnest. In phreological language, it must have a good deal of secretiveness in it; it must pretend not to know what it is about. It must give you room to put it aside if you please. It must, in fact, be like some of the best of Mr. Locker's verses. We will remember the first of them we ever saw:—

At writing an exile from Geraldine G—,  
How wretched an exile I feel!  
Promenades are not even promenade and leather  
To lovers, if lovers can't find them together.

He flies the parade; by ocean he stands;  
He traces a "Geraldine G—" on the sands;  
Only "G!" though her loved patronymic is "Green,"  
I will not betray thee, my own Geraldine.

The fortunes of men have a time and a tide,  
And Fate, the old Fury, will not be denied;  
Thy name was, of course, soon wiped out by the sea,—  
She jilted the exile, did Geraldine G.

They meet, but they never have spoken since that;  
He hopes she is happy—he knows she is fat;  
She, would on the shore, now is wed in the Strand;  
And I—it was I wrote her name on the sand.

The above we quote because they are short, and not because they are the best, or nearly the best, that Mr. Locker has written. We very much like that poem about the poor old Government clerk and some other of the poems.

But here our praise ends. There is a traditional flavour of the Major Pendennis school about some of Mr. Locker's verses which we greatly dislike. "Begad, Sir!—walked round the Mall to have a look at the fine women. Yes, begad!" Nor is this the worst. Mr. Locker apologises for some of the poems included in his volume. If the apology refers to certain verses in which the *double-entendre* is all the wit, he would have been better advised if he had left them out *without* an apology. The birching of young ladies (p. 181) is not a pleasant topic; still less when it is associated (naturally enough, of course) with such a piece of *double-entendre* as the definition of an "Old (i.e., an ancient) Buffer" taken from Webster's Dictionary (p. 189), which will be perfectly understood if the very last word in the composition is spelt with a small "b." But Mr. Locker seems to find so much humour in the subject that he is at it again, with a well-known classical allusion, in the two last verses on page 152. We object, also, to the "Russet Pitcher" (p. 26-8), which is amazingly like a song or two that we remember in the literature of the Regency. We doubt if many readers will like the verses headed "My Firstborn." But if Mr. Locker must needs write such things he might, at least, be correct in his epithets. Of all words in the language the adjective "pale," in line 3, on page 50, is the least appropriate that could have been selected. It is from no inartistic fastidiousness that we object to compositions like these, and we feel sure that the majority of cultivated readers will go with us in condemning them. There would be no humour which turned upon the application of the *ferula* to a little girl's hand. We want to know, then, what is the precise nature of the humour, if any, in Mr. Locker's "Old Buffer." There may, indeed, be some humour in Mr. Locker's having gone such a long way round to get at so spiteful and disagreeable a jest. But that is all.

*The Modern Playmate: A Book of Games, Sports, and Diversions for Boys of All Ages.* Compiled and edited by the Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A., F.R.S., author of "The Illustrated Natural History," &c. With 600 Original Illustrations. London: Frederick Warne and Co.

As in learning, so also in sport, the boy of the period has many helps provided for him. Books of games and diversions are as "plentiful as blackberries," though we dare say blackberries are not by any means so plentiful as they once were—thanks to the reclamation of waste lands, the close trimming of hedges, and other causes that have been at work of late years. The latest, and perhaps most complete, book of sports is that just issued by Messrs. Warne and Co., under the superintendence of that most indefatigable (and successful) of bookmakers, the Rev. J. G. Wood. Every description of game, diversion, and athletic exercise, both for indoors and outdoors, is fully described and figured, the rules of each being accurately given, according to the latest and most authoritative practice. There are also instructions in science, mechanical work, the management of home pets, pisciculture, &c., the whole forming a very complete book of amusements, profusely illustrated.

*Kilmeny.* By WILLIAM BLACK, Author of "In Silk Attire," "Love or Marriage," &c. Three vols. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

This is not the best of Mr. Black's novels, but it is one of the fullest, and certainly exhibits no falling-off in power. In its general characteristics it exactly resembles its predecessors. The author is a man who knows the world, English and Continental. He is an accomplished man of society as well as a man of letters. He reports his German and his French in the most exuberant manner—even going so far as to tell a short story all in the latter language: the speaker, of course, being French. But, besides his knowledge of strictly orthodox society, at home and abroad, Mr. Black knows Bohemia, Lower and Upper, and the refined social borderland from which the shading-off begins. Into the borderland he never fails to take his readers; and, indeed, his "upper-tendons" (to use a vile idiom of Fanny Fern's) is nothing if not Bohemian—or rather, if not with a sort of "bouquet" of the pleasant land. Hence, there is always ample opportunity for what Mr. Black delights in—namely, epigram and sparkle, which seems to come as natural to him as to those choice nerved wines with which he is apt to make his page fizz. "It must have been a judgment; for it fell on the wrong person;" a "palpable hit" like this is, to some people, better than a volume of moral criticism. Some of the little stories, too, are capital; one of the best being that in which a club sharper is "sold." This is too good to isolate—get the book and read it. There is a very neat trick performed by a gardener, who desired to spite a mistress who had given him warning. She presented him with five pounds to lay out in seeds. He dibbled, and dug, and stuck the beds all over with little labels *secundum artem*, and the good people anxiously watched for the flowers to "come up." But, of course, as the reader foresees, none did come up. Little Ethel, who tells this story, is a wonderful creature, and, one suspects, a portrait. We have heard before of

"La Dernière Chemise de l'Amour" as a rendering of "Love's Last Shift;" but what the little puss says of birds is exquisite:—"Birds don't go to heaven when they die," said Ethel, contemptuously; "the best they can expect is to be stuffed and put in a glass case." Heatherleigh says, "We ought to be thankful we are Christians, because if we were not some other nation would probably try to make us Christians."

Of the characters, Polly, the good, clever artist's "model," is the freshest and best. Heatherleigh is good; and the working men are well known. Bonnie Lesley is Mr. Black's coquette over again, a little altered. She stands related to our old friend Fanny Helstone much as Ethel Newcome might to Beatrix. Kilmeny herself is a delightful figure. The story is that of a working man who becomes a painter and marries the lady of his love at last. There are many particulars in which the author has not done himself anything like full justice, and his book is too episodic; but that his hand has lost none of its old cunning the following passage will show:—

The young hawthorn was out in the hedges, the chestnut-buds were bursting, the elms were sprinkled over with leaves; and the white clouds that crossed the blue spring sky gave to the fawn woods and hills a constant motion of shadow and sunlight that crept landscapes at every step. . . . I took Fraz up and over the chalk hills, and through the woods that were now growing rich with flowers. These were a wonder to him—the wilderness of wild hawthorn, a lambent blue; the pale, bluish-throated anemone, the pink-velvet wood-sorrel, the tiny moss-hel, the dark dog-mercury, the golden-cup anemone; and everywhere the perfume of a sweet violet, blue and among heart-shaped leaves, along the rabbit tracks and around the roots of the trees. The constant animal life, as—the appearance of a rabbit into the branches of a chalk-hill, the silent flight of a hawk across the broad hills to some distant place of safety, the sudden whirr of a cock pheasant, and the incessant screaming of jays; all around were the busy tom-tits, and thrushes, and blackbirds, with a glimpse of a golden-crested wren hopping from bush to bush, or of a kestrel hanging high up in the blue, his wings motionless. Over all these, again, the light and motion of a breezy English sky, with cumulus masses of white cloud that chased the sunlight over the Burnham woods, or hid the distant horizon in dark lines of an intense purple.

This is not common writing; and, if Mr. Black will resolutely aim at unity of effect, he will some day produce a great story.

*Mushroom Culture: its Extension and Improvement.* By W. ROBINSON, F.R.S., Author of "The Parks, Promenades, and Gardens of Paris," &c. With Numerous Illustrations. London: Frederick Warne and Co.

Mushrooms have lately been coming into renewed—or, we should perhaps say, extended—favour. Their value as an article of food is becoming more fully recognised, and the only drawbacks to their extensive use in the catalogue of edibles for the million are the difficulty of cultivating them artificially and of distinguishing the genuine article when they grow wild. So many misadventures have attended the collection of mushrooms—or what were supposed to be mushrooms—by unskilled persons, that people had become chary of using the fungous growths of the fields. Those interested in the matter, however, will have all the perplexities on both the scores to which we have referred solved by a study of Mr. Robinson's volume, where ample information is supplied as to the value of the mushroom, the best means of raising it, and how to distinguish the true plant from all other, and often noxious, productions of a kindred nature.

## BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

*Paul Fenton.* By Mrs. F. MARSHALL WARD. London: Benrose and Sons.

*The Beaver Trappers, the Military Chest, and other Stories.* By JOHN HENDERSON. London: W. Tegg.

*Oakdale Grange.* By THOMAS SIMMONS. London: Bull, Simmons, and Co.

This is a small batch of books for young people, each of them fairly representative of the class of stories to which it belongs, the first being of a semi-religious kind; and, as is not unusual with small volumes of that kind, especially when written by ladies, introducing topics which, not being always so delicately hinted as they are in Paul Fenton, would, if they formed any portion of a mere secular story, be regarded by pious folk as a reason for inveighing against the pernicious influences of romance and fictitious literature. Mr. Henderson's stories will be interesting to boys who like to read tales of adventure and travel; and, though they are narrated in a plain and not always a very lively manner, seem to show that the author has some real acquaintance with the scenes he describes. Oakdale Grange is a larger volume, but its size is, perhaps, due to some spinning out of a story of school-life, scarcely up to the average of those which appear in some of our best boys' magazines.

We have also received an autobiography detailing some incidents in the public life of "Walleit, the Queen's Jester." Many of our readers may remember Mr. Walleit as the "Shakespearean jester," on whom the late Mr. Albert Smith once wrote a complimentary acrostic, which is republished in the present volume; and, had the veteran joker been as picturesque in print as he was waggish in words, the book would have been humorous enough. As it is, it is a mere record of events, some moderately interesting, and others so commonplace that it is strange they should have found a place in a book which might surely have been four times the size if the author had kept a diary or still possessed as good a memory for actual humorous occurrences as he once had for queer puns and fanciful conceits.

**UNITED STATES WHEAT.**—The imports of wheat from the United States have already exceeded this year the receipts from the same source in many previous years. In 1859 the Americans only sent us 159,926 cwt., and in 1860—the year of extension following the civil war—635,239 cwt. In the first four months of this year, however, we imported American wheat to the extent of 3,955,925 cwt., as compared with 2,674,150 cwt. In the corresponding period of 1869, and 2,225,595 cwt. In the corresponding period of 1868.

**THE POPE AND THE EASTERN CHURCHES.**—The German *Cross Gazette* learns from Rome that the Oriental Catholic Church of the Armenians has entirely separated itself from the Papal chair. This news has caused much ill-feeling at the Vatican, where the blame is attributed to France. The United Chaldeans are now said to intend to break off all connection with Rome, and the Copts are about to do the same. The Eastern Bishops approve of the course adopted by their see, and Monsignor Piyon announced in his last despatch from Constantinople the approaching withdrawal of the Maronites, Syrians, and Greek Melchites from communion with Rome. In this case, however, the Pope will have entirely lost all his power in the East.

**THE JERSEY MILITIA.**—A petition to the Home Secretary has been signed by several thousand inhabitants of the Island of Jersey, praying that the Royal Jersey Militia be disbanded during the Queen's pleasure in time of peace, "as its compulsory service is unjust and contrary to the spirit of the age." The petitioners state that by the law of 1771 every British subject is liable to be enrolled in the militia, from the age of sixteen to sixty-five years; and this law has been enforced, the number of men serving in the town battalion would have reached to at least 2000, whereas it is only composed of about 600 men belonging to the humble classes of society, who can bear this no longer, and who consequently appeal with confidence to her Majesty's Government to be released from those oppressive services during peace.

**THE LATE SIR JAMES Y. SIMPSON.**—Last Saturday a meeting was held in Bathgate with reference to the erection of a memorial there to the late Sir James Y. Simpson, Provost Waddell presided. On the motion of Mr. Johnstone, solicitor, seconded by Dr. Kirk, the following resolution was adopted:—"That this meeting views with pleasure the movement in Edinburgh to perpetuate, by some lasting memorial in the capital, the memory of Sir James Y. Simpson; but, inasmuch as the people of Bathgate, the native place of Sir James, had previously inaugurated a movement for the erection of a statue to the memory of their illustrious townsman, and had received the support of many eminent gentlemen throughout the country, and inasmuch as they believe that the two movements will not in any way interfere with each other, resolved that a statue, or other suitable memorial, in the birthplace of one who was a really great in science and eminent in piety, would be a most fitting tribute to his memory." A committee was appointed to carry out the object of the resolution.

and therefore I am sure Mr. Golwin will feel that in the course we have taken we have only taken the course which was usual, and that the House would have had reason to complain if we had not done so.

On the motion of Mr. Alderman Brown, seconded by Mr. Boothroyd, Mr. Forster was thanked for his kindness and courtesy in attending the meeting, and the interview terminated.

## FINE ARTS.

## THE DORÉ GALLERY.

A great French artist, whose name has become so familiar to the enormous industry which has made him the most successful of illustrators of "special editions," has for some time been represented at a gallery in Bond-street, where his more important works are displayed. When the visitor to that gallery comes to regard M. Doré as a great illustrative artist the impression is most of them eminently satisfactory, conveying as they do a new sense of that extraordinary power of pictorial interpretation which, while it is profoundly suggestive and almost fully thoughtful, relies more on these qualities than on actual drawing or reality of outward form and colour. Intense expression, often powerful in execution and in the ability to convey a forcible stimulus to the fancy by a touch of the pencil, are of M. Doré's best pictures are inseparable from that weirdness which belongs to dreams of an unhealthy character; and herein lies his power. Without the grotesque horror of Fuseli or the hideous realism of Cabot, he exceeds any other artist in his power of imagination by that mystical suggestiveness which owes force to its direct appeal to the truth that underlies the truth while preserving the allegorical form. It is in some of the illustrations to "The Wandering Jew," and more particularly to those more rapid and careless pictures in the small book of romantic tales that we see this power, while very few of the books to which he has added the charm of his pencil do not exhibit more than one or two flashes of the same rare genius. Curiously enough, it is in his more important works, like "The Triumph of Christianity" and the picture at present being exhibited at the gallery—"Christian Martyrs in the Reign of the Emperor"—that we miss much that has placed him in the foremost rank of art. He has judiciously hesitated to confide to a single detached work those powers which, when combined, have so distinguished him; and the result is a sense of tameness, of married expression; and, if we may so speak, of hesitation and want of fulfilment. Expecting some wonderful suggestiveness, we find paintings only relieved from commonplace by the few touches which such an artist could not forbear; and, as he is never distinguished for his actual colouring, nor, indeed, for any of the technicalities of art, the result is at first unsatisfactory. In the later pictures, however, he has chosen a subject congenial to his style. The drawing on of night in a vast amphitheatre in Rome, after the sanguinary festivities, during which a band of martyrs has been sacrificed to wild beasts and more ferocious warriors, could not be depicted without those grand touches which have always distinguished M. Doré's work. Shall we be pardoned if we say that it is in the earthly, or in the weird border-land between earth and Hades, that the artist shines, and that for this reason the ghastly spectacle of the heap of slain, the lions prowling among the dead and the dying, the gloom, the terror, and the pain arrest the attention more than the company of angels descending to bear the spirits of the martyrs to eternal joy and peace? It is, perhaps, the consciousness of weakness in dealing with the representation of this angelic portraiture, and the consequent want of force in the contrast, that has caused him to pause, and, instead of displaying his usual boldness, to leave the earthly portion of the scene less marked than it would have been but for the heavenly necessity. It is, after all, in the single pictures of M. Doré, where one idea may be made the theme, that we must look for his truest power—pictures, for instance, like "The Neophyte," the original of a work noticed in our columns last year. In this (the completed painting, for which the other was only a study) there are two rows of monks, and the intensity and variety of the faces is not diminished by the addition.

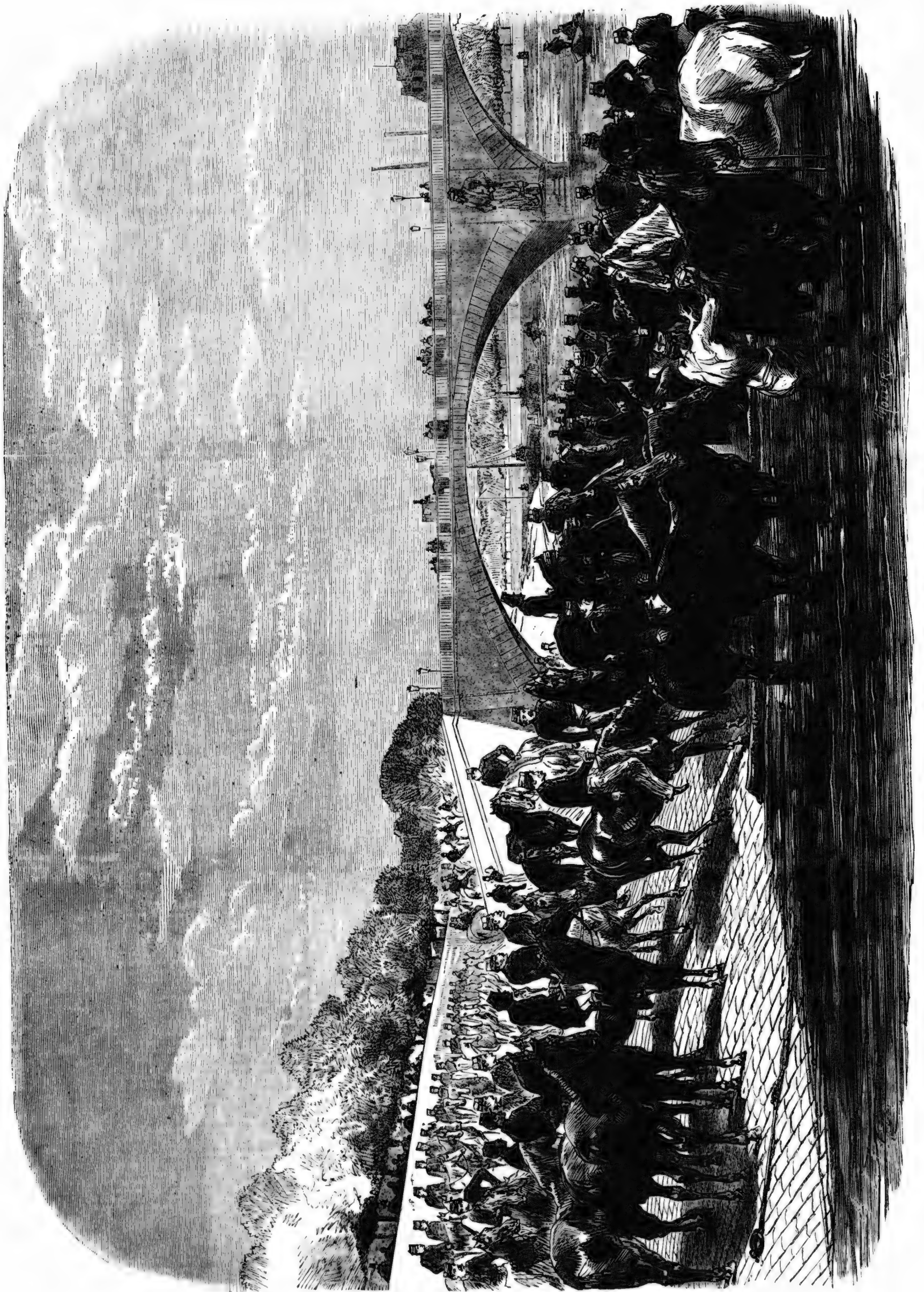
## FANS AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

There are evidences that the fan will once more hold a distinguished place among the accessories of feminine attire; and, indeed, with the present temperature, and the present determination to exclude even the appearance of shadow in head-dresses, it will be regarded as an important article of utility for preserving the complexion. Probably our recent interesting relations with Japan may have given a fillip to a fashion never likely to be quite obsolete; and the exhibition at South Kensington of these "instruments used by ladies to move the air and cool themselves," as Dr. Johnson savagely calls them, may have a still more decided effect in bringing them into as general use as they were in the days of Elizabeth, or of Queen Anne, in whose reign fan-fighting became an eminent art.

The present exhibition is a part of the scheme of the Department of Science and Art for the instruction of women. To promote this object, the department offered prizes in competition to fans painted by the students in the Female Schools of Art in 1868 and again in 1869. The fan mount, to which in the first of these years the chief prize was awarded, is included in the exhibition, and it is intended to continue the competition. Her Majesty also proposes to offer a fan prize for competition at the International Exhibition of 1871; so that there is now an opportunity for students intending to compete to see examples of most of the best fans belonging to different styles and periods. The collection commences with the Japanese and Chinese fans, both men's and women's; and there are some exquisite specimens, especially of that rich overlying work wherein on the mounts paintings which resemble enamel, but are probably only executed on paper, form a part. There are also some very remarkable old Chinese fans, the style of which contrasts well with the modern improvements, and several not only finely painted but ornamented with oxidised metals. Of course, the mounts and sticks are often the richest and most exquisite part of the work, and those fans composed entirely of carved tortoise-shell and ivory are many of them extremely beautiful and elaborate. The Indian fans, too, simple as many of them are—such as the one composed of "palm-leaf and lace"—are very delicate and graceful, and of strange quaint shapes; while the feather fans again are rich with subdued colour and admirable contrasts or harmonies of hue. Of course, the collection of French fans embraces a great variety, including lovely paintings on silk, scenes à la Watteau, and patiently-handled miniatures, cupids, flowers, birds, landscapes, and subjects from sacred and pagan history. Some of them are carved and jewelled; but they are not more beautiful than many of the Early English fans painted on satin and vellum. Some of the English are of paper, printed from wood blocks, and one is called the Pamela fan, because on it are represented scenes from the great fashionable novel. Perhaps the collection lent by the Queen and the Royal family, comprising exquisite specimens of Chinese, silver, filigree, French, German, and English fans is the most complete and beautiful; but there are examples of Spanish, Italian, and other varieties of past and present fashion, which have been sent by members of the English, French, and German aristocracy, which require careful study before their elaborate finish and artistic merit can be fully appreciated. Altogether, the exhibition is one of the pleasantest of the season, and will be found a great addition to the other attractions at the South Kensington Museum.

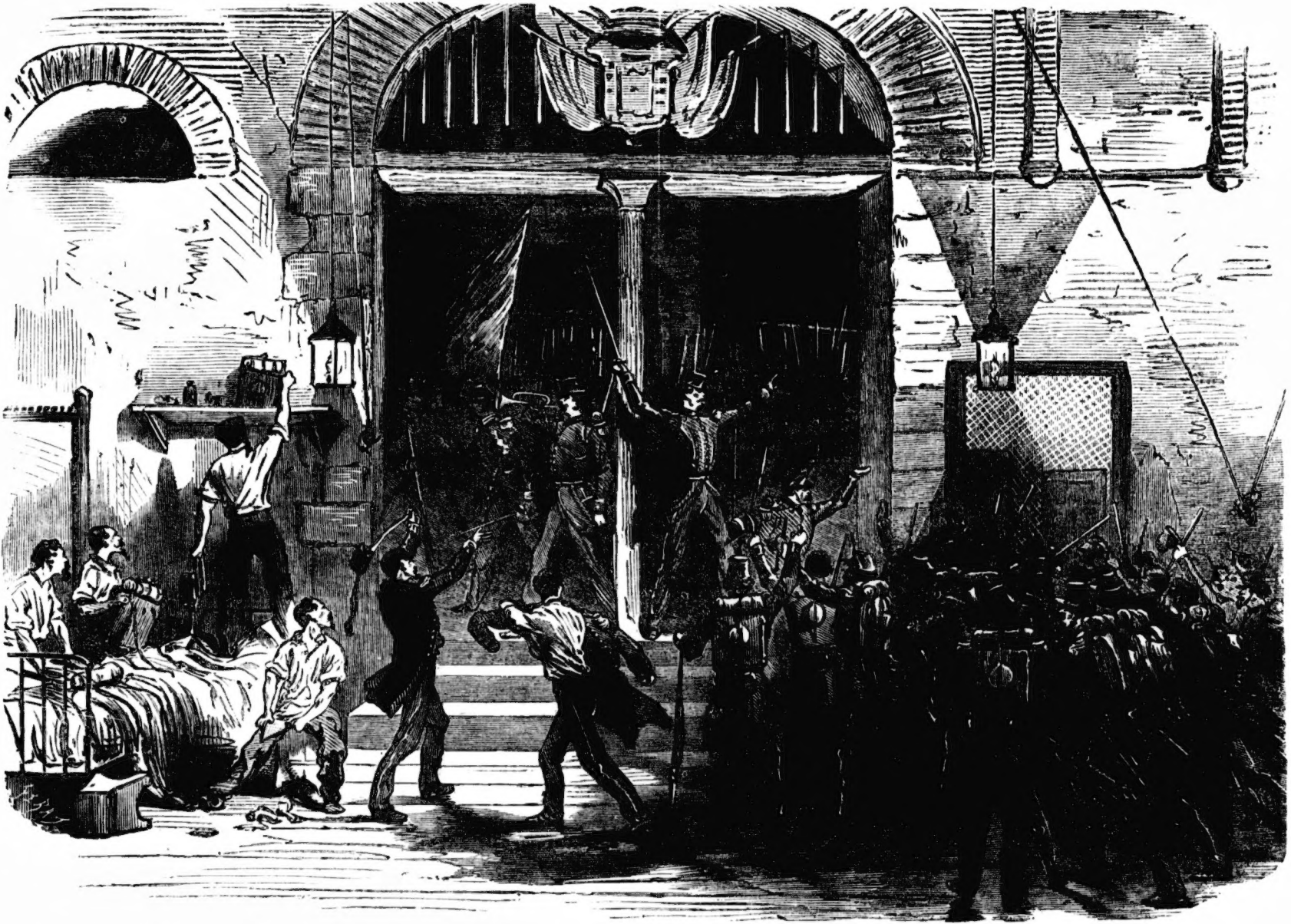
**DIGNITY OF KNIGHTHOOD** has been conferred upon Mr. James Macdonald, Chief Secretary to the Government of Victoria; and Mr. J. Macdonald, Chief Member of the Executive Government of the Colony, and Mr. J. Macdonald, Chief Member of the Executive Government of the Colony, has been appointed a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.





CAVALRY MEN BATHING IN THE SEIN : AT THE QUAI D'ORSEY, PARIS.





THE LATE COUP D'ETAT IN PORTUGAL: CAPTAIN PINA VIDAL HARANGUING THE TROOPS IN THEIR QUARTERS IN SUPPORT OF SALDANHA.

#### WASHING CAVALRY HORSES IN PARIS.

ONE of the most certain signs of summer weather has for several days been recognised in Paris by the loungers on the Bridge of Alma or the parapet of the Quai Billy. Our Engraving will indicate what is the spectacle which every morning attracts a crowd to these pleasant spots: no less an event, in fact, than the daily ablutions of the horses belonging to the military school, which are brought down to the Seine for a comfortable bath in a space formed by beams so placed as to check the flow of the tide. It is a very simple ceremony, horses and men being attired in the least possible costume; the former in a mere bridle-halter, the latter—or, at least, those of them who have taken the rank of knight commanders of the bath—in a cool uniform, consisting of a pair of linen trousers and a cotton nightcap. But it is a great sight, nevertheless; a rare piece of fun



FRENCH TIR NATIONAL: RECEPTION OF NATIONAL GUARDS BY THE RIFLE ASSOCIATION AT THE RAILWAY STATION, MARSEILLES.



to be witnessed gratuitously from a safe distance in the commodious gallery of the Bridge of Alma. For though the operation is systematically performed, and each pair of horses is ridden quietly enough into the water, some of the steeds play rare pranks both with grooms and with the general assembly on the banks, the most practised plungers distributing showers of water with the utmost impartiality and giving everybody the advantage of participating in their ablutions, to say nothing of trampling and rearing in order to retort such compliments on each other. Altogether, the horses' toilet is one of the great attractions of gamins and morning idlers, and there is never wanting a good assembly of spectators to witness the fun and its consistent horse-play.

#### INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF MARSEILLES

Do not let us think that we are to be the only imitators of those Swiss associations which produced the rifle corps that now distinguish us as a nation. For two years past Marseilles has displayed its energy in maintaining a société de tir, due, as to its first formation, to the activity of M. Bousquet, its president. Its head quarters may be found at the extremity of the Prado, the spot where the Château de Fleurs and the Hippodrome formerly stood in that town of sultry, baking heat and bare, unrelieved brick and stone.

The heat was having its all its own way a few days ago, but it seemed to have little effect on the crowd that filled the interior of the railway station. Enthusiasm almost as warm as that baking-oven of a place supplied a counteracting remedy; for they were expecting a deputation which, if not international, was national—a deputation of the National Guards of the Seine, who were coming for the purpose of forming a part of the international congress. At about a quarter past one the arrival of the expected train was signalled, and every member of the crowd took up a position as close as possible to the line; and as the train came in sight it was greeted with a great burst of cheering and the sudden striking up of the band of the 5th Regiment of the Line. During these demonstrations the National Guards, who had got themselves into marching order, responded with cheers for Marseilles, the Marseillais, and the Marseillaises, the latter of whom evinced their appreciation of the compliment by a cordial waving of hands and handkerchiefs, while in a few minutes handshakings and embraces attested the general welcome. After these effusive demonstrations had to some extent subsided, the president of the Marseillaise association addressed the National Guards, thanking them for their prompt response to the invitation to be present at the international assembly; and their commander, M. Jobal, having replied "in a neat and appropriate speech," the united officers placed themselves on horseback at the head of their companies, and to the music of the bands marched off to headquarters amidst general acclamations. Our engraving is from a sketch taken at the railway station on the arrival of the guests.

#### MUSIC.

SINCE our last notice the Italian Operas have given us little to remark upon, less to praise. Drury Lane has been sadly put out by the continued hoarseness of Mdlle. Nilsson—a hoarseness not resulting from a cold, but from the hard, and in some measure unnecessary, work done in Paris immediately before leaving for London. If favourite prime donne will overtax their strength they must expect weakness, but they should remember that others suffer with them. We are sorry to say it, but there can be little doubt that Mdlle. Nilsson's non-appearance during the two best weeks of the season has gone far to paralyse effort for the future. Some excellent performances have been given in Mdlle. Nilsson's absence—"Le Nozze" on Saturday last, "Il Barbiere" on Monday, "Dinorah" on Tuesday, and "Roberto il Diavolo" on Thursday, with Mdlle. Reboux as Alice, being among them. These, however, call for no critical remark. It is rumoured that the popular Swedish artiste returns to duty on Tuesday next, and we hope the rumour is true, for the sake of an enterprise which, let us add, ought never to have been dependent on the health of a single artist; but such is the constitution of things operative—the prima donna is all, the rest of the company nothing.

On Monday last there was a "first night" at Covent Garden, the opera being our old friend "Il Trovatore," with Mdlle. Titiens as Leonora; and a debutant, Signor Vizzani, as Manrico. We need only say of the first artist that she displayed the excellence familiar to every opera-goer, while of the new tenor an obvious remark is that he, with a light voice, cannot sing the robust music of Manrico. He appears to-night in "La Traviata," and may do himself more justice, so that we shall act kindly by reserving an opinion as to his merits. Mdlle. Scalchi was Azucena, and fairly represented the character. "Fra Diavolo" was given on Tuesday, for the first time this season, Madame Luca taking her old part in the old way. The performance generally was very indifferent, Signor Ciampi's Lord Allcash being more offensively demonstrative than ever, and Mdlle. Olma, who appeared as the English lady, never knowing the business nor the music. Moreover, Madame Luca sang less carefully than usual—so much less that even her acting failed to make up for the deficiency. Signor Naudin's Fra Diavolo was neither worse nor better than we have long known it. The opera since Tuesday have been repetitions which need not detain us.

Madame Sainton-Dolby closed her public career of thirty-six years at her annual concert, in St. James's Hall, on Monday. As might have been expected, a very large and fashionable audience assembled, while the marks of sympathy shown to the retiring artist were worthy the occasion. Madame Sainton sang two sacred airs and two secular songs, doing so in a style we are not likely to witness again. The purity and sweetness of the voice may have departed, but in all other respects Madame Sainton remains, as she has been for a quarter of a century, a model for those who aim at perfection. The bénéficiaire was well supported by artists from the Italian Opera, Drury Lane, and by English singers in plenty, among whom were Madame Sherrington, Miss Wynne, Messrs. Reeves, Cumming, Thomas, and Santley. Madame Sainton was loudly cheered after her last song, and may accept those cheers as an assurance that the esteem of the public follows her into retirement.

At the Philharmonic Concert, on Monday, the novelty was Signor Piatti's concerto for violoncello, played by the composer, who has written in a manner calculated to show his own skill, but hardly to interest those who look further than virtuosity. The larghetto and some of the tutti passages are well put together; but the general effect is not great. The symphony was Beethoven's "Eroica;" the overtures, Sullivan's "In Memoriam," Mozart's "Zauberflöte," and Mendelssohn's "Athalie;" and the pianoforte solo was the last-named composer's rondo in B minor, not very perfectly played by Mr. F. H. Cowen. Madame Sinico and Mr. Santley were the vocalists; the latter singing in grand style Sullivan's "I wish to tune my quivering lyre."

The third concert of Mr. Henry Leslie's summer series took place in St. James's Hall on Wednesday evening, the place of Mdlle. Nilsson being taken, "in the kindest manner," by Mdlle. Titiens. Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and a miscellaneous selection made up the programme, both parts seeming to give entire satisfaction to a very large audience. The "Stabat" was well rendered, Mdlle. Titiens, Signor Mongini, Madame Trebelli, and Mr. Santley particularly distinguishing themselves in their respective airs. The miscellaneous pieces included "Ocean, thou mighty monster," splendidly sung by Mdlle. Titiens, and Mendelssohn's noble psalm "Judge me, O God," which the choir gave to absolute perfection.

In addition to the above important gatherings, concerts have been given on a smaller but still noteworthy scale. M. Delaborde

interested a second audience in St. James's Hall, on Tuesday, by a performance on his ungainly-looking though musically effective "pedal pianoforte;" and Miss Kate Gordon's friends rallied round her in the Hanover-square Rooms, fully appreciating her efforts to show that she is an in proving as well as a clever pianist. Miss Sophia Heilbron gave a concert on Thursday in order to display the precocious musical talent which has already gained so much attention. Other concerts take place to-day; and for a long time to come the sequence of "benefits" will continue.

#### COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE following important memorandum appears in the *London Gazette* of Tuesday:—

At the Court of Balmoral, the 4th day of June, 1870. Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council. Whereas it is expedient to continue, with certain amendments, the existing provision for testing, according to fixed rules, the qualifications of persons who may, from time to time, be proposed to be appointed, either permanently or temporarily, to any situation or employment in any of her Majesty's civil establishments, except as hereinafter mentioned:—

1. Now, therefore, her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that the Right Honourable Sir Edward Ryan, now First Commissioner under her Majesty's Orders in Council of the 21st May, 1855, and the 26th April, 1862, and George Webb Dacent, Esq., Doctor of Civil Law, or such other persons as her Majesty may from time to time approve in the stead of them, or either of them, shall be her Majesty's Civil Service Commissioners for testing the qualifications of the persons so proposed to be appointed to any situation or employment in the civil establishments as aforesaid, and shall hold their offices during the pleasure of her Majesty; the said Sir Edward Ryan continuing to be the First Commissioner, and the said George Webb Dacent being the Second Commissioner; and shall have power, subject to the approval of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, to appoint from time to time such assistant examiners and others as may be required to assist them in the performance of the duties hereinafter assigned to them.

2. And it is hereby ordered that (except as may be excepted under clause 7 of this order, and in the schedule marked B annexed hereto) the qualifications of all such persons as may be proposed to be appointed, either permanently or temporarily, to any situation or employment in any department of the Civil Service shall, before they are employed, be tested by or under the directions of the said Commissioners; and no person (except as aforesaid) shall be employed in any department of the Civil Service until he shall have been reported by the said Commissioners to be qualified to be admitted on probation to such situation or employment.

3. No person shall be appointed to any office or employment in any of her Majesty's Civil establishments until he shall be reported by the said Commissioners to have satisfied them—1, that he is within the limits of age prescribed for the situation or employment to which he desires to be admitted; 2, that he is free from any physical defect or disease which would be likely to interfere with the proper discharge of his duties; 3, that his character is such as to qualify him for such situation or employment; and 4, that he possesses the requisite knowledge and ability to enter on the discharge of his official duties.

4. The rules applicable to each department, under each of the above heads, shall be settled, subject to the approval of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, by the said Civil Service Commissioners and the chief authorities of the department.

5. Except as hereinafter is excepted, all appointments which it may be necessary to make, after Aug. 31 next, to any of the situations included, or to be included, in schedule A, to this order annexed, shall be made by means of competitive examinations, according to regulations to be from time to time framed by the said Civil Service Commissioners and approved by the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, open to all persons (of the requisite age, health, character, and other qualifications prescribed in the said regulations) who may be desirous of attending the same, subject to the payment of such fees as the said Civil Service Commissioners, with the consent of the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, may from time to time require; such examinations to be held at such periods and for such situations or groups of situations, in the same or different departments, as the said Civil Service Commissioners, with the approval of the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, shall from time to time determine, and to have reference either to the vacancies existing at the time of the examinations respectively, or to the number which may be estimated to occur within any period not exceeding six months after the commencement of the examinations, as the said Civil Service Commissioners, after consultation with the chief authorities of the various departments, and with the approval of the said Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, may deem expedient.

6. After the candidate, reported as aforesaid by the Commissioners, has been appointed to an office or employment, he shall enter on a period of probation, during which his conduct and capacity in the transaction of business shall be subjected to such tests as may be determined by the chief of the department to which he is attached, and he shall not remain in the public service after six months from the date of his appointment, unless satisfactory proofs of his fitness shall have been furnished to the chief of such department, and a certificate of his qualification shall have been issued by the Civil Service Commissioners. A formal record of the particulars and of the result of such probation, signed by the chief of the department, shall be furnished to the Civil Service Commissioners, and filed in their office, and they shall thereupon, and not sooner, if such record should be satisfactory, issue their certificate of the candidate's qualification for employment. The candidate after, no less than before, the issue of such certificate, shall hold his office at the pleasure of the chief of his department.

7. In case the chief of a department to which a situation belongs and the Lords of the Treasury shall consider that the qualifications in respect of knowledge and ability deemed requisite for such situation are wholly or in part professional or otherwise peculiar, and not ordinarily to be acquired in the Civil Service, and the said chief of the department shall propose to appoint thereto a person who has acquired such qualifications in other pursuits; or in case the said chief of the department and the Lords of the Treasury shall consider that, either for the purpose of facilitating transfers from the redundant list or for other reason, it would be for the public interest that examination should be wholly or partially dispensed with, the Civil Service Commissioners may dispense with examination, wholly or partially, and may grant their certificate of qualification upon evidence satisfactory to them that the said person possesses the requisite knowledge and ability, and is duly qualified in respect of age, health, and character.

8. And it is, lastly, hereby ordered, that the situations mentioned or referred to in the schedule marked B, hereto annexed, shall be wholly excepted from the operation of this order, provided that the chief authorities of any department, with the concurrence of the Lords of the Treasury, by notice in the *London Gazette*, may from time to time add situations to either of the said schedules, or withdraw situations therefrom, or restore thereto situations which may have been withdrawn.

#### SCHEDULE A.

Departments to which the principle of Open Competition, provided in Class 5 of this Order, is to be applied:

Treasury, Privy Council Office, Colonial Office, India Office, War Office, Admiralty, Board of Trade, Poor-Law Board, Privy Seal Office, Customs, Inland Revenue, Paymaster-General's

Department, Civil Service Commission, General Post Office (Clerks in Secretary's Department), Mint, Exchequer and Audit Department, General Register Office, Office of Works, Office of Woods, &c., National Debt Office, Public Record Office, Stationery Office, Charity Commission, Education Office, Registry of Designs, Registry of Seamen, Registry of Joint-Stock Companies, Emigration Office, University of London, Science and Art Department, London Gazette Office, County Courts Judgments Registry, Office of Examiners of Criminal Law Accounts, Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Office (Scotland), Chief Secretary's Office (Ireland), Constabulary Office (Ireland), Directors of Convict Prisons' Office (Ireland), Office of Inspectors-General of Prisons (Ireland), General Register Office (Ireland), Registrar of Petty Sessions Clerks' Office (Ireland), Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums' Office (Ireland), Registry of Deeds (Ireland), Public Works Office (Ireland), Dublin Metropolitan Police Office, and Divisional Justices' Offices, Dublin.

#### SCHEDULE B.

Situations altogether excepted from the operation of this Order.

1. All situations to which the holder is appointed directly by the Crown. 2. All situations included in any order or warrant made by the Commissioners of the Treasury under section 4 of the Superannuation Act, 1859. 3. All situations which are filled, in the customary course of promotion, by persons previously serving in the same department.

#### FLOWER SHOWS.

THE second flower show organised by the Royal Horticultural Society this season was held, on Wednesday, at the society's gardens, South Kensington, under circumstances equally favourable with those which attended the first, when a bright dry spring day afforded the visitors the advantage of inspecting the features of the display under the most attractive condition. The extent of the display presented will be understood when it is stated that prizes were offered in more than forty classes, and that every foot of available space was occupied by flowers or plants in the magnificent semicircle formed by the two arcades and the great central conservatory. At the far end of the eastern arcade a thick group of magnificent exotics was shown, and the grateful coolness effected by a fountain playing in close vicinity conduced to make their structure and luxuriance the subject of lengthened dissertations by those who were glad to escape from the glare of the sun. Passing along the arcade towards the west, banks of calceolarias, cut rudolendrons, and pelargoniums were placed in the succession indicated; and, further on, several collections of foliage plants relieved the line of colour, which would otherwise have been monotonous. Amongst these was an exquisite specimen of the *Ananassa sativa variegata*, the flower of which, rising from a little trunk of the plant, closely resembles a pine-apple—at least, in its external construction. In the conservatory the tables were covered with masses of bloom, alternating with collections of ferns and other plants with variegated foliage. At the end of one of the tables a novel addition was made by an example of *Spiraea palmata*. This plant, which is a native of Japan, has stems and branches of deep purple red, which, passing into the crimson purple of the broad corymbs of flowers, supplies a peculiarly picturesque and graceful aspect. A specimen of the *Masdevallia veitchiana* also constituted a special object of interest, which was increased by the knowledge that it was worth 120 gs. In another part of the inclosure pots of the *Laelia purpurata* added largely to the decorative attributes of the show, and little pyramids of azaleas were thrown into graceful relief by the more sombre colour of the plants in juxtaposition with which they were placed. Passing into the western arcade, the visitor saw before him another mixed collection of plants and flowers, amongst which was perhaps the most interesting single specimen in the whole exhibition. This, though called in the Latin of the gardeners *Nepenthes rafflesiana*, is much more intelligibly described by its English name, "the pitcher plant." It consists of wide leaves, from the end of each of which hangs a long flower, resembling in shape a large meerschaum pipe, the likeness extending even to the cover and the stem. Would it be worth the antiquary's while to examine the question, Were not pipes invented in the native land of pitcher plants? The roses in pots, though few, were rich and large, and some of the yellow flowers of the *Marchal Niel* and *Gloire de Dijon* varieties competed for supremacy in the judgment of admiring connoisseurs. Mr. Water's show of rhododendrons in the large tent near the road was inspected by a considerable number of persons, although it is probable that more would have found their way to it if notices of its existence had been more extensively exhibited. The bands of the Scots Fusilier Guards and the Hon. Artillery Company played during the afternoon; and the visitors, including Princess Teck, were numerous, and (it is scarcely necessary to add) fashionable.

At the Botanic Gardens an exhibition of American plants was held on Wednesday. The gardens themselves looked charming in the bright sunlight; and the groups of rhododendrons, now in full bloom, would have rewarded a visit in themselves. Amongst those who inspected the show during the day were the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Teck, who were attended by Lady Geraldine Somerset and Lord Fredericks Paulet.

NEW LIFE IN ST. PANCRAS.—A special meeting of the St. Pancras guardians was held on Monday to consider the arrangements for the administration of medical aid or relief, when it was resolved to divide the parish into four relief districts, with three dispensaries. District No. 1 is to have two medical officers, one at a salary of £200 a year and one at £100 a year, and a dispenser at £70 a year salary; dispensary at Bower Cottage, Kentish Town. In district 2 the dispensary will be at the Vestry Hall, and the medical officer is to get £200 a year. In district 3 the medical officer is to have £200 a year; dispenser the same as for No. 2; salary, £90. In district No. 4 the medical officer is to have £200 a year; the dispensary is in Compton-place, and the dispenser gets £75. The object in view is that the medical men should devote the whole of their time to the relief of the sick poor.

SEIZURE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AT CORK.—An important seizure of Fenian arms was made, on Tuesday night, in the city of Cork. Acting on information supplied to the police, a party of officers proceeded to a public-house occupied by a woman named Covey, but were not successful in finding anything of a suspicious character. On going to the back premises, however, they discovered five bags of powder (each bag containing about one hundredweight), three fowling pieces, some revolvers, and a quantity of percussion-caps and ammunition, besides a miscellaneous collection of other articles, all of which had been concealed. Mrs. Covey, who is the mother of a notorious Fenian who some time since went to America, has been arrested. She was taken before the magistrates on Wednesday. Mr. Martin, a gunsmith, identified a gun as one of those carried off from his shop by armed Fenians in 1868. A box, gun-case, and flask, marked with the initials of Captain McQuay, Royal Engineers, were produced. They were stolen a month ago, with a box containing arms and military maps. The case was adjourned.

THE FIELD AND THE FARM.—The wheat crop in the north of England made considerable progress during the month of May, although the weather was not warm throughout, but being dry has been suitable for that plant, which has kept its colour; but for all that it is far from being thickly set on the ground; and however it may tiller or spread, if the plants are not there it can never be a full crop. A piece of rich-looking wheat is scarcely to be seen, while on the poorer ground it is considerably short for the time of year. Barley and oats generally look well. They got a fine seed-time, the ground being well pulverised with the frosts; the fine lower surface has so far resisted the drought. The exceptions are where the ground was not ploughed till seed time, and wrought badly; there the crops are poor and thin. A very large breadth of turnips has been sown this spring, and in some localities, especially on the coasts, they have had sufficient moisture to get them away; but, as a rule, they are much in want of moisture, and in many parts, where up, have been eaten off by the fly. The turnip crop is consequently at present in a precarious state. The potatoes are very short of grass—have not been so much out of this time for many years. The new land hay will not be much more than half a crop. If rain comes soon the old land may make up yet. Cattle are doing fairly, considering the shortness of the pasture, but it has the effect of keeping the markets well supplied with fat, and the markets are anything but brisk. Sheep-shearing has commenced, and where well wintered giving a good fleece. Taken altogether, it may be said to be an average clip.—*Chamber of Agriculture Journal*.



## POLICE.

**CABS AND LUGGAGE.**—At the Mansion House, on Monday, Mr. George Fuller, a merchant in Bucklersbury, was summoned for the non-payment of 2s. to a cab-driver. The complainant, Mark Croves, took the wife of the defendant from the White Horse Inn, Brixton-road, to Bucklersbury, on May 26, and demanded 2s. fare and 2d. for a package which he had carried outside his cab. The defendant offered him 2s., but he declined to take it. The defendant said he attended the court in the case purely as a matter of principle. His wife hired the defendant, and wished to have with her a small wooden case containing valuable china. The complainant took it from her and placed it outside, saying it made no difference. With that assurance she allowed him to place it there, and she was surprised, on alighting, to find that he demanded a sum for its carriage. The complainant replied that he had a new cab, and he did not care to have boxes put inside. Besides, the box could not be called personal luggage. Mr. Oke, the chief clerk, said the box was a good deal cleaner than many persons that were carried in cabs. The Lord Mayor dismissed the summons, saying that it would only have been a fair thing for the complainant to have complied with Mrs. Fuller's request to have the box carried inside. The defendant was liable for 2s., which he at once paid.

**ALLEGED FENIAN ATTACK UPON THE POLICE.**—On Monday, at the Thames Police Court, a tall, well-dressed Irishman, who gave the name of John Leedom, which is supposed to be a fictitious one, and aged twenty-six years, was brought before Mr. Lushington, charged with unlawfully firing a loaded revolver with intent to murder or do grievous bodily harm to the following officers: James Macdonald, police-sergeant, No. 102 H; John Whatmore, police-constable, 198 H; and George Franklin, 168 H. The prisoner was described as of no occupation, and dwelling at No. 42, Watney-street, St. George's-in-the-East. Police-Sergeant Macdonald stated that at one o'clock that morning he was standing at the corner of Cannon-street and Cable-street, St. George's-in-the-East, conversing with two police-constables, named Whatmore and Franklin, and was issuing some directions, when he saw the prisoner step out of the darkness on the opposite side of the way close to a shop, and in a moment the prisoner fired a revolver. He saw the flash distinctly. It was higher than a man's body. He heard a whizzing in the air and believed a shot passed close to him. He immediately advanced towards the prisoner, seized him by the throat and the left arm, while the other policeman held off of the right hand and took a five-chamber revolver from it. The prisoner's hand was on the stock of the pistol. As soon as the revolver was taken from the prisoner he put his right hand towards his left breast. Witness at once let go the prisoner's throat and exclaimed, "Take care! for God's sake, mind; there is something more here!" and took a large and well-mounted dagger from the prisoner's pocket. The prisoner was at once secured. He accused him of firing the revolver at witness and his brother officers. The prisoner said the revolver went off by accident, and the ball struck the ground. In answer to questions by Mr. Lushington, the witness said that he could not see the prisoner raise his arm, but he was sure the flash was above the ordinary height of a man's body. It was not a downward nor an upward flash. The prisoner was perfectly sober. Police-Sergeant Freeman, No. 58 K, said the revolver taken from the prisoner was a new one with five chambers; four of them were capped and loaded; the fifth chamber was not loaded, and the cap on it was exploded. The prisoner made a statement at the police-station in King David-lane, Shadwell, which was taken down in writing, as follows:—"The pistol exploded accidentally. I did not fire it at any person. I received some rough usage from the men who took me. I think the bullet may be found close to where I was standing. I thought it was near my own foot." Macdonald was again interrogated by Mr. Lushington: He said the fire was towards him and his brother officers. He researched thoroughly for the ball. He believed it went a long distance, and was flattened. There were twelve percussion-caps on the prisoner, besides those on the revolver, two green tickets, a dagger, a knife, an old watch with the case broken, and several printed bills announcing a grand entertainment, concert, and ball, on Whitson Tuesday, June 7, 1870, at the St. Helena-gardens, Rosherville, for the benefit of a patriotic Irishman; manager, Mr. T. Norris; master of ceremonies, Mr. Regan; J. J. Casey and R. Baker, honorary secretaries; W. Farrell, treasurer; J. Walsh, chairman. The names and addresses of a great many Irishmen, from whom tickets could be obtained, were mentioned on the printed bill. The prisoner said his back was turned towards the police officers when the pistol went off, and that he came out of no recess. Macdonald: "I did not say a recess, but from a dark space close to a wall." The prisoner: "My back was towards you." Macdonald: "No. Your face was towards me." Mr. Lushington noticed that there were no caps on the revolver produced. Police-Sergeant Freeman said the chambers were loaded, but the caps were removed by himself to prevent danger. A police-constable (Whatmore) was put into the witness-box and sworn, when Mr. Lushington remanded the prisoner.

**STUCK IN THE CHIMNEY.**—At Marylebone, last Saturday, a young man, whose face and hands were begrimed with soot and his clothes completely smothered, and who gave the name of Joseph McGlynn, labourer, was charged under the following circumstances:—Police-Constable Wilding, 127 D, said about two o'clock in the morning he heard loud calls from a woman at 11, George-street, Leeson-grove, that a man was in the chimney. He found the prisoner fixed at the bottom of the chimney. A rope was put down to him, but he could not release himself. They had to cut a hole in the breastwork of the chimney to get him out. He was nearly dead; he could not speak; and they had him conveyed to the station on a stretcher, where he was seen by the divisional surgeon. When he came to he said he was chased by a man who was going to stab him, and he ran into the house and got through the loft and into

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"SHELDON MUSPRATT, M.D., &c., Professor at the Liverpool College of Chemistry."

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the chimney-pot to hide himself, when he slipped down the chimney. The house was two stories high, and the chimney-pot about 12 ft. from the roof. James Brown, the owner of the property, said he was called to the house, and found that the prisoner had got fixed in the bend of the chimney for about two hours, and had him cut out. The chimney-pot was a zinc one, and was completely spoiled. It would cost over thirty shillings for all the repairs. The prisoner must have got through the trap-door. Prisoner still adhered to his statement of a man going to stab him. Mr. Cook said he ought to have been charged with a burglary. He sentenced him to three months' hard labour for being in the chimney for an unlawful purpose.

**A "NOBLE" BILKER OF CARMEN.**—Lord Arthur Clinton was summoned by a cabman to appear at Bow-street, on Tuesday, but when his name was called there was no response. The cabman claimed £1 for driving his Lordship about for upwards of six hours on Saturday week. The cabman took up his fare at the Opera Hotel, Bow-street, and on leaving him there at night was sent to Long's Hotel with a letter addressed to a gentleman alleged to be staying there. The cabman was informed that the gentleman had gone abroad, and when he returned to the Opera Hotel to get his money he was told that Lord Arthur had also gone; and since that time he had been unable to find him. The summoning officer stated that the summons was left with the barmaid of the Opera Hotel, who stated that Lord Arthur Clinton was staying there, and that he should have the summons when he came in. Mr. Vaughan directed inquiries to be made, and added that if it was discovered that the summons was delivered to Lord Arthur a warrant should be granted for his apprehension.

**EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF FRAUD.**—At the Mansion House, on Tuesday afternoon, William Henry White, aged forty-one, auctioneer, was brought before the Lord Mayor on a warrant, charged with having, between January and May last, in the city of London, then being a director of a certain public company called the Manchester Insurance and Banking Company, unlawfully published a prospectus well knowing it to be false in certain material particulars, with intent to deceive and defraud Oswald Currie and others, creditors of the company. Mr. George Lewis, jun., who conducted the prosecution, narrated the circumstances of the case as they would be afterwards proved in evidence. He said the company was registered in 1868, and had no connection with a highly-respectable office in Cheapside called the Manchester Insurance Office. It first carried on business in the City-road, but afterwards removed to 55, Cheapside. It then printed a prospectus, which stated that the trustee was "W. H. White, Esq.," the present prisoner, and the chairman was a Mr. George Smith. One of the board of directors was "Mr. W. H. Albus," who, he would prove, was also the prisoner, and the general manager was "John White." The Lord Mayor: "Then the prisoner has Latinised his name?" Mr. Lewis: "Yes. The physician is Dr. F. W. Palmer, of Old Kent-road, whose hours of consultation are from nine to eleven a.m. and from six to nine p.m. The arbitrator's name is W. H. Mellor, a barrister; but he is not the son of the Judge of that name. The agents are described to be 'all over the world,' and the company is stated to have a large capital. A dividend of 5 per cent was guaranteed by coupons on the security of slate-quarries, tin-mines, and plantations in the West Indies of the value of £50,000. The policy-holders were to have a share of the profits, and the dividends were to be distributed every six months." The Lord Mayor: "Are you reading from a printed document or from a page of *Punch*?" Mr. Lewis replied that it was the printed prospectus of the company. It went on to say that the great principle of the office was the payment of policies during the lifetime of the assured, and that the directors were men of aptitude, and had a great pecuniary interest in the concern. The people insured might be males and females between the ages of one month and eighty-five years. Sums of 1s. and upwards might be deposited, and insurances effected on fires, embezzlement, plate-glass, &c. This prospectus was even advertised in a respectable newspaper like the *Law Journal*. He (Mr. Lewis) had to say there were no directors, and no business had been carried on. The prisoner had two agents, who went about to get business while he himself attended to customers in the office. When the landlord of 55, Cheapside, made a distress for the rent, the only things in the office were a table and a chair, and the prisoner had not paid a single farthing. Some evidence was called to establish the facts mentioned in Mr. Lewis's opening, and the prisoner was remanded without bail.

**JEALOUSY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.**—Walter Bliss, twenty-three, described as a seaman, living in Marshall-street, Golden-square, was, on Wednesday, charged before Mr. Elliott, at the Lambeth Police Court, with attempting to shoot Emily Batchelor, residing in Devonshire-grove, Old Kent-road. Emma Batchelor said she was the mother of prosecutrix, who, for a time, had kept company with prisoner. The connection was not approved of by witness or her husband. On Tuesday evening prisoner came to the house and inquired if Emily was at home. Witness said she was, and tried to persuade her to come to the gate and speak to prisoner. Her daughter declined, expressing fear of being in danger of her life. Ultimately she agreed to see him from the parlour window. She had no sooner approached the window than prisoner drew a pistol from his coat-pocket and took aim at her. Witness screamed, and, seizing prisoner by the wrist, threw up his arm. He struggled and got away from her. He replaced the pistol and made off. Some short time afterwards he again came past the house, and, fearing from his manner that he meant to do harm to her daughter, she told her husband, who went in pursuit of him. Emily Batchelor, the prosecutrix, said she had known the prisoner some time, but had expressed a wish not to keep up her acquaintance with him. He was exceedingly jealous, and had only a few days before threatened if she went out with anyone else he would shoot her. He had also made use of similar threats before Christmas last. Prisoner: "I deny that. I said you would repent it if I caught you with anyone else." Witness: "You threatened to shoot me, and tried to borrow a pistol." Prisoner (bitterly): "You have lately treated me like a dog." The father of the prosecutrix said he pursued the prisoner, and took from his pocket a pistol, and then called a police constable. Police-Constable Nolan, 18 R Reserve, said he took the prisoner into custody in the Aylm-road, and saw the pistol produced taken from his pocket. The pistol was loaded to the muzzle with powder and three bullets. He had also upon him another bullet, some gunpowder, and percussion-caps. He made no answer to the charge. Prisoner: "The pistol has been loaded for a month; but there was no cap upon it." Constable: "Yes; I took the cap off." Prisoner: "Well, I put that on after I left the house." Mrs. Batchelor, in answer to the magistrate, said: "Prisoner took deliberate aim at the window with the pistol whilst prosecutrix was standing there, and, if his arm had not been seized, she fully believed he would have fired." Prisoner, in defence, denied any intention of doing harm, but repeated his assertion that the young woman had lately treated him like a dog. Mr. Elliott committed him to take his trial.

**FURIOUS DRIVING.**—At the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, John Edwards, a carman, aged twenty-seven, of North-street, Whitechapel, was charged with being drunk and furiously driving a horse and cart, in High-street, Bow, to the common danger of passengers, and also damaging one of the Metropolitan Tramway carriages. On Monday night the prisoner was racing in a crowded road, in which there were multitudes assembled on foot and in every description of vehicle. George Stephens, a police constable, No. 32 K Reserve, said prisoner was driving at the rate of twelve miles an hour, and the horse and cart with which he was racing knocked down and ran over a man in the road. An unsuccessful attempt was made to stop the driver, who it was believed lived in Southwark, and the police have a clue to his address. The prisoner at last drove against one of the large cars of the new tramway company, which was on the tramway in High-street, Bow, and filled with passengers inside and out. The driver of the car pulled his horses at right angles with the car, when the prisoner approached, and but for this movement they would have been killed. Owing to the collision with the tramway car the prisoner was thrown out of his cart. The tramway carriage was damaged and disfigured; but none of the passengers sustained the slightest injury. Mr. John J. Corrigan, the managing director of the Tramway Company, said he might charge £7 or £8 for the damage done to the car, but he should make no claim whatever. He wished to call the magistrate's attention to the dangerous and furious driving on the road between Whitechapel Church and Bow Church. No person's life was safe. Henry Topley, the conductor of the tramway car, confirmed the statement of Mr. Corrigan. Inspector Gee, of the K division, said he could corroborate all that Mr. Corrigan and Mr. Topley had said. The Commissioners had placed many well-mounted police-constables on the road to prevent furious and reckless driving and to put offenders. Mr. Woolrych said the prisoner had been most leniently dealt with, and he thought Mr. Corrigan ought to have called upon him to assess damages. If that had been done the pri-

soner would have had to pay a very large sum or go to prison for a long time. The conduct of drivers coming home from the country was most reprehensible. The Bow-road, where the accident happened, was wide, and, with the least care, occurrences like this could be avoided. He fined the prisoner 30s., and in default sentenced him to one month's imprisonment.

**WHOLESALE ROBBERIES AT THE MIDLAND RAILWAY STATION, DERBY.**—At the county police court, Derby, on Monday, John Brierley (who works at Messrs. Fletcher's ironworks, Litchurch, Derby) was brought up in custody of Mr. Lawson, deputy chief constable, charged with a series of robberies committed by him at the Derby railway station. Last Saturday evening, between six and seven o'clock, a middle-aged man, of respectable appearance, was noticed loitering about the platform; and while one of the porters turned his back he seized two bags and stepped aside. As soon as he saw a man watching him he "bolted off" into one of the closets in a waiting-room. The station-master was communicated with, and when the man came out of the waiting-room he gave him into custody. Inspector Lownds, Sergeant Parker, and Detective Sheppard subsequently went to the house of the prisoner (John Brierley, No. 31, Douglas-street), and there found a vast amount of property, too extensive for them to carry away all at once. Having conveyed a portion of the property to the county police office, they returned with a cab, which scarcely held the remainder. The articles included nine carpet bags, two leather portmanteaus, a quantity of silver plate (stolen from the first-class refreshment rooms), silver forks, spoons, and tankards, five umbrellas, ten overcoats, two walking-sticks, an extensive quantity of ladies' and gentlemen's under-clothing, two or three rugs, a rifle, a revolver, two letter balances, some carpet patterns, collars, neckties, handkerchiefs, and about £100 worth of brass fittings, stolen from Messrs. Fletcher and Co., of the Masson Foundry, Litchurch, where the accused was engaged as manager. In his possession were also found several pledge-tickets—for two gold watches, sleeve-links, and other articles of jewellery. The search at the prisoner's house was not concluded by the police until midnight on Saturday. The whole of the goods, with the exception of the brass fittings, are the produce of systematic robberies perpetrated on the Midland Railway for many months past, the company having had many complaints of thefts from the waiting-rooms at Derby. The prisoner, on Good Friday last, stole from the platform two travelling-cases, the property of Mr. Tompest, of Little Eaton, near Derby. In fact, the articles stolen are too numerous to particularise.

### THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—S. PARTON, Birmingham, grocer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. ARMSTEAD, Brighton, rate collector.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. PENNETT, sen., Leekham, cowkeeper.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. E. EVANS, Marylebone, harmonium manufacturer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. H. COTTELL, Throgmorton-street, solicitor.  
**BANKRUPT.**—P. M. LAKE, Caledonian-road, baker.  
**BANKRUPT.**—R. ROYER, Westminster, licensed victualler.  
**BANKRUPT.**—H. ROUSE, Poland-street, Oxford-street, Civil service clerk.  
**BANKRUPT.**—CLAYTON, Leicester, ironmonger.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. GRINDY, Birkhead, boardmaker.  
**BANKRUPT.**—S. GOODBERRY, Birmingham, attorney.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. H. and W. L. TAYLOR and J. WHITTAKER, Middlesbrough, builders.  
**BANKRUPT.**—G. W. WILLIAMS, Worcester, ironmonger.  
**BANKRUPT.**—SCOTCH EQUESTRIANS.—P. BRUCE, Washington, J. BROWN, Kelso, stationer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. S. BRYCE, Glasgow, writer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—G. R. ALAN, Glasgow, surgeon.  
**BANKRUPT.**—A. FINLAY, Aberdeen, commission agent.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—J. J. GEARY, Leamington, Priors, tailor.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. E. HUGHES, Oxford and Nise—J. JAMESON and J. S. MCCORMICK, Wigton and Kingston-on-Hull, contractors.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. MORTIMORE, Torquay, lodging-house keeper.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. SLATER, Bury, cloth merchant.  
**BANKRUPT.**—L. TAYLOR, Ladbroke, solicitor.  
**BANKRUPT.**—E. and L. SPOWERS, South Hydon, shipbuilders.  
**BANKRUPT.**—SCOTCH EQUESTRIANS.—R. and W. WATSON, Fifehead, Fifehead, glass manufacturer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. COWAN, Inverness, com. agent.  
**BANKRUPT.**—A. MCCORMICK, Glasgow, coal merchant.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. HENDERSON (deceased), Glasgow, builder.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. DUFFES, Inverness, plasterer.

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